A PAPER FOR THE BUFFS AND MEN OF KENT.

The Dragon

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Personalia.

A HAPPY New Year to all our Readers. May each of our Battalions find in their new stations all that is best to make up for all that was worst in their last. May the industrial revival be such that there may be work and plenty for all old Buffs. May all copy for the following month's issue reach us not later than the 14th of each month. May it be legibly written and written on one side of the paper only. And may there be any amount of it both from units and individuals. Or in other words may 1922 be a Bumper Year for all past and present Buffs.

And before passing to other things may we offer our sincerest thanks to all—and their number is Legion—who helped us in 1921 to bring the *Dragon* up to its present standard. That there is room for much improvement yet we know, but we are happy in the thought that this will come through the co-operation of our readers helping us to overcome our many omissions. So once again the best of good wishes to all, and the best of thanks for the assistance given us.

We have news of Mr. M. W. Sheen (late Pte. 2710) living in London, whom many of our readers will remember with the 1st Battalion on the Indian frontier, and later with the 2nd in the South African war.

Major and Mrs. Campbell Johnston have gone to the Riviera, and may go on to Corsica in the New Year.

Mrs. Hasler is living at Tetbury (Gloucestershire). not very far from Major Hickman; her boys are going to school next year.

Major-General Sir Arthur Lynden-Bell is to be made an honorary M.A. of Cambridge University, an honour which was bestowed on him by Oxford some time ago in recognition of his services in connection with the Officers' Training Corps.

Mrs. Goff, after all, will not be going to Malta until next summer as her husband's ship has now been ordered to Constantinople, instead of the former place.

We are reminded that the name of Brigadier-General A. J. W. Allen, C.B., should have been included in the list of the Naval and Military Club which appeared in our last number. A list of others whose names were omitted will be found on page 18.

Mrs. Ravenhill, who has recently had to undergo an operation and has been at a nursing home in Beaumont Street, is now, we are glad to say, convalescent.

We much regret to have to record the death at the age of 68 of an old veteran in Mr. William Jenks, who served as a Col.-Sergt. under the name of Roots with the 2nd Battalion in the Zulu War. He was one of those who ran away from home to join up, and that he never regretted joining The Buffs is best proved by his saying a few days before he died that if he had his life provided over again he would be a soldier, provided he could serve in The Buffs.

We hear that Pte. Hewitt, who used to be employed in the 2nd Battalion coffee shop in Kilkenny in 1895-8, is now Police Sgt. at the Royal Gunpowder Factory at Waltham Abbey. He promises to make one more towards our 5,000 subscribers, and good luck to him.

We have received an interesting letter from Mr. H. H. Crosley late of A Coy. 1/5th Buffs. Mr. Crosley was with the 5th Buffs both in India and Mesopotamia, and is now back in India as manager of the Munaar Supply Association, Ltd., whilst he is also a trooper in the Southern Provinces Mounted Rifles.

Mr. Crosley asks us to send his new address to his late platoon commander, Lieut. W. A. MacGadger, M.C., which we are glad to have been able to do, and he also asks us to send copies of the *Dragon* to the following:—Mr. John Meekings, Watford Poultry Farm; The Rev. P. A. Brunt, late Chaplain to the 5th Buffs and now with the Wesleyan Mission at Mysore City; Lieut. Harold Clarke of the 9th Ghurkas and Lieut. Stanley Cullen of the 1/19th Punjabis, both of which officers served as privates in the 5th Battalion.

All of this we have done also, and we can only say that we are always glad to send specimen copies of the *Dragon* to the friends of any of our readers, and to place our thousand and more addresses of old Buff officers at the disposal of anyone who may be seeking to gain touch with others.

The sympathy of everyone will go out to Major R. G. A. Marriott on his recent accident in the hunting field by which he sustained a broken leg. We are glad to say he is getting on well, and everyone will join us in wishing him a speedy and successful recovery. One of Major Marriott's visitors during his convalescence by the way has been Major W. H. Booth, whose father was recently buried in Exeter, at the ripe old age of 91.

We take this opportunity of thanking the W.O.'s, Staff Sgts. and Sgts. of the 1st Battalion for their kind remembrance in sending us one of their Christmas cards on which we found the following:—

"Kind thoughts are truest wealth, so take
This Christmas wish, and treasure it
For old acquaintance sake." A good wish which we heartily *reciprocate*.

And others whom we take this opportunity of thanking for their good wishes are the officers of the 2nd Battalion, and Major Tomlinson who has sent us a copy of the Badminton Annual for 1922.

Personalia—*continued.*

An old friend with whom we have recently got into touch has been Mr. G. W. Brown, late Congy Brown of the 2nd Battalion whom all will remember as one of our best comedians. He is now residing at Selhurst, S.E. 25, and has become a regular subscriber.

Mr. Sidney Scott (late Sgt.) is now Scoutmaster of the Adisham Boy Scouts, and we hear that since he took over the post considerable impetus has been given to this excellent movement in his district.

Another old Zulu warrior from whom we have heard is Mr. John Casey, who joined in 1872, Mr. Casey volunteered for the late war but failed to pass the doctors. Now residing at Lambeth his interest in the Regiment is as strong as ever it was.

Then another veteran who writes to us is Mr. G. H. Mills who tells us how pleased he was to see the good old *Dragon* after so many years. Mr. Mills was groom to Capt. Jackson at Canterbury in 1881, served later under Col. Morley at Dover, Col. Blakesley in Ireland, and then under Col. Harrison in India in regard to which he says :—" When I look back on those days, it makes me smile I can tell you ! "

Capt. S. Maiden has sent in his papers in order to join the teaching profession. We wish him all good luck in his new appointment at St. Peter's School, Broadstairs.

We hear that Major Beevor is to run the pageantry and ceremonial side of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales' visit to Delhi in February.

We have much pleasure in publishing the following letter received from Col. W. E. R. Kelly :—

" So I have to yield " pride of age " to Capt. Dyer—well and good,—but I will not yield in my love for the dear old Regiment, in which I spent 37 years, and I wish you and all ranks, past and present, every good thing for the New Year in which Mrs. Kelly joins me."

A little re-union at Minster takes the form of Capt. H. A. Nicholas obtaining his *Dragon* each month from his late servant Mr. Knight who is acting as our Agent—and doing very well too—in that village.

Mr. John Druce writing from Gore Court, Goudhurst, tells us he has a large collection of Buff medals in his possession. These we hope to have the pleasure of seeing these shortly so that we can write up their story in the pages of *The Dragon*.

One who is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the 1st Battalion from Ireland is Mr. John Mullineux who joined the Regiment no less than 53 years ago. Now living in Lancashire his greatest desire is to see the Regiment once again, and we can only hope that 1922 may see this realized. Mr. Mullineaux by the way is most anxious to get into touch with Col.-Sgt. David Sweet, a contemporary of his, and would be glad to hear from anyone who can help him in this respect.

We have only just heard that in April of last year Captain and Mrs. Boon celebrated their golden wedding in Guernsey, C.I., and we feel sure that, even at this late hour, all readers of *The Dragon* would wish to send this happy young couple their heartiest congratulations and good wishes. We say happy *young* couple as we happen to have a snapshot of Capt. and Mrs. Brown before us as we write. This was taken on the day of the great occasion and all we can say is, that if we look half as young on the occasion of our silver wedding as they do on their golden one we shall have no cause to complain.

Born in 1846 Capt. Boon joined the 1st Battalion in 1864, and started climbing the ladder the following year when he was promoted Corporal. Rapidly going from rung to rung he ultimately became Lt. and Q.M. to the 2nd Battalion in 1891 and was promoted Captain 10 years later. And it was in February 1902 that he was retired under the age clause. Capt. Boon saw active service both in India and S. Africa gaining medal and clasp for the Perak expedition, and the Queen's Medal and King's Medal with six clasps, and the D.S.O. in S. Africa. His marriage took place in 1871, and of his four sons still living all joined the Army, three obtaining commissions, the second George Edgar being severely wounded at Loos when with the 2nd Battalion. Mrs. Boon is perhaps as well known in the Regiment as her husband having " soldiered " with her husband in both Battalions. Once again we congratulate them both, and may the cares of 1922 fall lightly on their shoulders.

Talking of Golden Weddings the present year will see that of Col. and Mrs. Kelly, an event to which we are looking forward to doing full justice in our columns.

A suggestion reaches us from Mesopotamia that some of the 1/5th Buffs might like to write up for *The Dragon* some of their experiences with the Arabs and Assyrian refugees during the war. We hope they will, and perhaps Mr. Towse will tell us about the Assyrian wedding at which he gave a song, and L/C. Player of the 2nd Battalion about his experiences in Russia, where he served after leaving Mesopotamia.

We now hear from Mr. S. J. Barnard, late Sgt. The Buffs about the recent election of Mr. H. Hepworth, late The Buffs, as Mayor of Gillingham. We hear that Mr. Hepworth has at all times been unsparing in his labours on behalf of ex-Service men, and that now he is doing everything possible for the unemployed. Mr. Hepworth was first returned to the Town Council in 1912, and since then had earned the deep respect of all the citizens of Gillingham.

We congratulate Majors Tomlinson and Crookenden on their recent election to the Band of Brothers.

Our correspondent from Adisham writes that Cpl. Wood, Bandsman Wood and Drummer Simpson, all from The Depot, fairly brought the house down with their turns at the annual supper of the members of the Village Hall, which was a great success and attended by no less than 120 members and their friends.

We congratulate Lieut. J. R. Willows on passing the examination necessary for promotion from Lieutenant to Captain.

Another old hand from whom we have recently heard is Mr. C. Thompson, late of C Company, 1st Battalion. Mr. Thompson joined the Buffs in 1870, and later served in India under Colonels Cox and Walker.

As we go to press we are encouraged by the number of renewed subscriptions we are receiving for 1922. Many of these have been brought up to the old 15/- rate as a result of the article in our Christmas number, and we look forward to giving full acknowledgements in our next issue to all who are helping *The Dragon* in this way.

That we should be late in making our appearance in the New Year, in spite of all the assistance given us, is a great disappointment to us. But, alas! our wonderful Post Office managed to lose in the post the complete budget of our corrected page proofs, and we had to do the job all over again.

Past and Present Association
The Buffs.

GREETING for the New Year to everyone.

* * *

The past year has, I think, been a record one with regard to New Members, since the formation of the Association. Commencing with the February number I hope to publish a list of all Members who had paid the 1921 subscription.

* * *

I regret that no members have so far expressed their views as to the holding the Annual dinner on a Saturday instead of during the week. Surely many of our members residing outside of the London area, must know whether Saturday is well suited to them.

* * *

The thanks of the Association are due to Mr. Nunn for the large number of new Members he has obtained during the last two months.

* * *

Present Members of the Association, who have been attending Courses at Enfield, express their thanks to "Gus." Baker for the many kindnesses they received at his hands during their sojourn at the "Lock." May your shadow never grow less, Gus.

* * *

Many applications have been received for assistance from "Old Buffs" who through wounds, etc. have fallen on evil times. All is done that can be done pecuniarly, and where possible children are got into the "Duke of Yorks, Soldiers' Daughters' Home; Widows into Cambridge Asylum for Soldiers' Widows and similar Institutions. Will Members who are subscribers to any of the Voluntary supported Institutions kindly inform the Secretary of the Benevolent Fund, in order that we may know what Buffs are supporting these Institutions.

A. ANDREWS, R.Q.M.S.
Hon. Sec.

The Buffs' Memorial Fund.

TENTH LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged ...	1120	9	3
Lieut.-Col. F. Phillips	1	1	0
Major M. Beevor	2	2	0
Mrs. M. Beevor	2	2	0
No. 6279176, "B" Company, The Buffs	0	2	6
Total	£1125	16	9

J. CROOKENDEN, Major,
Hon. Secretary,
The Buffs Memorial Fund.

Canterbury,
15–12–21.

Our Lame Dogs.

WE continue this month our list of Old Buffs on the books of the Regimental Employment Bureau, and for whom we make an earnest appeal for employment.

SITUATIONS REQUIRED.

Clerk or Storekeeper.—Age 42. Married. Mr. T. Smith, 26 High Street, Herne Bay.

Chauffeur.—Married. Mr. H. Best, 185 Southwark Bridge Road, S.E.1.

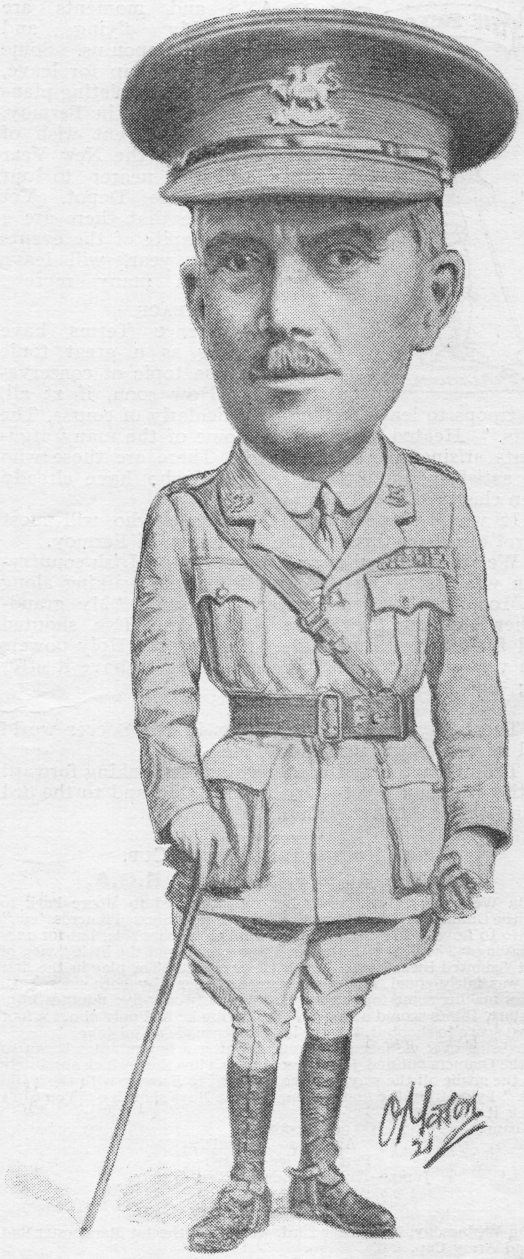
Plumber & Fitter.—Married. Mr. R. Bouchier, 39 Edward Road, Tower Hamlets, Dover.

Chauffuer.—Married. Mr. J. H. Kenley, 48 Bathurst Mews, Sussex Square, Paddington.

Servant or Kitchenman.—Single. Mr. C. Sewell, Estcourt, Broadmead Road, Folkestone.

Any light employment (right arm amputated).—Single. Kennett, High Street, Bridge.

Regimental Notabilities.



LT.-COL. R. McDOUALL,
C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O.

1st commission 8/1/92, Lieut. 4/10/93, Capt. 13/11/99, Maj. 4/8/10, Bt. Lt.-Col. 3/6/15. Adjt. 1st Bn. 13/11/99–30/9/99.

To France with 1st Bn. 9/9/14, in command 1914–15, G.S.O. 2 1915–16, G.S.O. 1 1916, Bde. Comdr. 1916–18, Brig. Gen. Base Comdt. Dunkirk 1918/19.

WAR SERVICE.

Chitral, medal with clasp.

South Africa with 2nd Bn. and S. A. Constabulary. Queen's medal (4 clasps), King's medal (2 clasps). Twice mentioned despatches.

The Great War. Six times mentioned despatches. C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., Legion of Honour, Order of Dannebrog by King of Denmark, 1914 Star and clasp, British War Medal, Victory Medal.

The 1st Battalion.

DAYS and moments are quickly flying and Xmas is almost upon us. Some of us are saving up for leave, and others are completing plans for enjoying Xmas in Fermoy.

It is the fervent wish of most of us that the New Year will bring us nearer to our friends in The Depot. Yet we are aware that there are a few who, in spite of the events of the past year, will leave Fermoy with many regrets.

PEACE.

The Peace Terms have come along as a great tonic and the one topic of conservation is "How soon, if at all, are troops to leave Ireland—particularly of course, The Buffs." Heated and long are some of the many arguments arising out of the news. There are those who are satisfied; and there are those who have already been classified as "Diehards."

It would appear that the people who will most regret our departure are the tradesmen of Fermoy.

We are reminded of an old story. An Irish countryman was discussing the situation while walking along the road. "My grandfather," he said, "My grandfather shouted for Home Rule. And I've shouted and fought for Home Rule. And by the Holy powers I'm very much afraid that we're going to have it after all; bad cess to it!"

FOOTBALL.

There have been great doings in the Soccer world and never has the Battalion done so well.

The first week of December finds us looking forward to the 4th round of the Irish Army Cup and to the 3rd round of the All Army Cup.

2ND ROUND IRISH ARMY CUP.

1st The Buffs v. 7th Bde., R.G.A.

On Wednesday, 16th November we journeyed to Moore Park to play the Gunners and in "Tommies" words we "Shoved it across 'em." by two to Love. The Gunners were a much heavier side, but for once the saying "The bigger the better" was wrong, and the little "men of Kent" showed themselves a much cleverer side. The play in the first half was fairly equal, and shots were exchanged by both sides, both goalies making some topping saves. About twenty-five minutes from the start, James scored a beauty, considering he had only about a foot of goal space to shoot at, but the left winger made no mistake.

Crossing over we faced the sun, and after a few minutes began to tire the Gunners out and Jones scored with a low shot, which absolutely beat the goalie all the way, and we returned to Fermoy with the "Old Duck" flying from the first wagon, and the Boys shouting "You can't whack it Joe."

Team :—
Woodward.
Andrews—Pearsall.
Perry—Price—Shaw.
Jones—Hughes—Lewis—Rye—James.

2nd Round Army Cup.

On Wednesday, November 23rd, we played the 1st Manchester 2nd Round Army Cup.

The Game opened and continued very fast, while some twenty minutes from the start a penalty was awarded to the Manchesters, Pearsall having done the jumping trick. They scored with a beauty on the left corner of the net. Play for the remainder of the first half was mainly in mid-field but the Buffs were always pressing. However on changing over to play up the hill it was whispered "Now Watch 'Em," Shortly a penalty was given in our favour, and Woodward our goalie scored a beauty. We still continued the attack and Lewis got through from a pass by Rye and scored No. 2. But Oh! another penalty given against us made cold shivers down our backs. Andrews the other back forgot himself and two penalties emanated from jumping. But they failed to score. Woodward was there and as the Bhoys say "we have got a Goalie." He stopped the ball in Buff-like manner. Someone remarked "Mr. Brown will have to put another half-a-dollar in the Buffs Benevolent Fund Box." But still we prospered and about two minutes before time Hughes got one on his head from a centre from James and we ran out winners 3—1.

3rd Round Irish Army Cup.

Saturday, December 3rd saw us batting with the M.G.C. from Ballyronare.

As usual the game opened fast and furious with a fanfare from Moss's band. Half an hour from the start Andrews and the centre half of the M.G.C. met and one had four stitches in his head. It is not necessary to mention Andrews was back in five minutes saying "Oh! for a pint." Then the usual shout another penalty, but for us this time and the Boston kid did the necessary, and we changed over one to the good. McLean our centre forward began to feel his feet about this time and got through all on his own, the man with the Cribbage Board registered two. Play continued fast but mostly in the M.G.'s half, when Barden another new comer (thanks to the Depot) gave Lewis an opportunity. He took it with his left foot and behold No. 3. The Crowd by this time were feeling confident and satisfied knowing full well we should enter another phase of the Irish Army Cup. A few minutes before time McLean again got to work and scored No. 4 and we ran out winners 4 to Love. But we sincerely sympathise with the Machine Gunners on their loss of their centre half through coming in contact with Punch.

BOXING.

A Novices Boxing Competition was held during November, the finals being fought out on the 15th. Some excellent bouts were seen and some of the novices will make a name in the Battalion. O'Hagon and Williams have already done well in the Brigade Boxing Tournament.

Bantam Weight.

D	Pte. O'Hagon	O'Hagon	O'Hagon	O'Hagon.
D	Pte. Barden			
C	Pte. Wood	Wood		
A	Pte. Manning			

Feather Weight.

A	L/Cpl. West	West	West
	Dmr. Allen		
D	Pte. Robbins	Wood	
C	Pte. S. Wood		

Light Weight.

D	L/Cpl. Buckles	Haynes	Haynes	Haynes
B	Pte. Haynes			
B	Pte. Chambers	Chambers		
A	Pte. Wickham			
A	L/Cpl. Powney	Williams	Williams	
C	Pte. '67 Williams			
C	Pte. Haydon	Humble		
C	Pte. Humble			

Welter Weight.

C	Pte. Heasman	Williams	Williams
C	Pte. '50 Williams		
C	Cpl. Wilcox	Wilcox	
C	L/Cpl. Boyce		

Middle Weight.

B	Sgt. Burt	Burt	Davis
	Bye		
A	Pte. Walters	Davis	
C	Pte. Davis		

CONCERT.

On December 1st the Concert party gave another performance in the Coffee bar. The usual performers such as Mr. Kimm, the inimitable Moss, the comically lugubrious Brothers, the dramatic Sergeant Jones, and Sgt. Emery again delighted the audience with their various turns.

L/Cpl. Polkinghorne presided at the piano, and also ventured further into the limelight by doing a turn under the chaperonage of Moss. And a most amusing item it was, too.

On this occasion also, several other debutantes made their bow. Mr. Gem appeared with Mr. Kimm, and together they informed the audience that they "never worried about the morning."

Mr. Brown became a temporary Frenchman and sang an amusing song called "Voila."

Mr. Tuke took temporary holy orders, and L/Cpl. Norris, D.F.M., Royal Corps of Signals was kind enough to give us two very excellent turns called "My Word!" and "My Beastly Eyeglass."

The Band, played with its customary skill, accompanying many of the singers.

A really splendid programme was concluded with a sketch in which Sgt. Jones and Bdm. Moss were the leading characters.

SERGEANTS' MESS.

Our "Armistice Dance," mentioned last month, was held on the 11th, and proved a great success. The ball room looked pretty, but the striking feature was the manner in which the stage was arranged. On one side was a typical "dug-out," with a sentry dressed in full trench kit, even to gas mask. This was labelled "Armistice Day, 1918," and reminiscences of the *actual* day must have floated across the minds of a good many present. The sentries played their part excellently, and made very realistic "Ole Bills." On the opposite side, parted by the Colours and Mess Silver, was a sentry in present day kit. This

The 1st Battalion—*continued.*

side was labelled "Armistice Day,' 1921." The clean khaki, polished boots and buttons and generally smart appearance of this side proved a striking contrast to the "muck order" of the other. A goodly number of dancers of both sexes occupied the floor, and a still larger number of the male sex the "bar parlour."

In addition to this dance we have had two "weekly" whist drives in the Mess, both of which have drawn crowded houses. These event are becoming exceedingly popular, and are heartily enjoyed by all members.

I have to record the results of two spoon shoots. The silver spoon has been won in both cases by Nuts Follett, who must have been wearing his "Jodhpurs." The "Wooden Un" went to Waxy and Tich Burville respectively. We also had a return match with the Corporals who ran us much closer this time. The scores were as follows:—

Sergeants.		Corporals.	
R.S.M. Martin	49	L/C. Osborne	33
R.Q.M.S. Martin	24	L/C. Clover	43
C.S.M. Follett	56	Cpl. Willing	44
W.O. Instr. Collins	40	L/C. Perry	40
C.S.M.I. McWalter	39	L/C. Bradbury	44
Sgt. Hills	55	L/C. Hollands	14
Sgt. Real	16	Cpl. Gomm	41
Sgt. Chandler	30	Cpl. Willcox	40
Total	309		299

Result:—Sergeants win by 10 points.

A Billard Handicap is in full swing but will probably be finished before the Christmas Festivities commence. There is also some talk of an Irish Peace Celebration Dance (when we draw our gratuities for service in Ireland (?) but there is nothing official yet. We extend a hearty greeting to C.S.M.'s Knight and Bones from the Depot, and hope they will spend happy times with us.

Hockey.

Since the last notes appeared we have unfortunately ceased to be competitors in the Army Hockey Tournament for we ran up against a very hot side—1st The Queens—who defeated us by the rather large margin of 7 goals to one. Most of the goals against us were scored in the 2nd half. It was a well-contested game and for the first half hour the pace was fast and the ball moved from one end to the other repeatedly. The Buffs indeed more than held their own and with the score at one all were unlucky not to lead. The Queen's however took the lead just before half-time. It was during the second half that our opponents asserted themselves and added five goals. The Buffs rallied occasionally, though indeed, such a large total of goals suggests a rout. But such was not the case, and our friends the Queens were the first to emphasize this. The Buffs played their best game this season but met a better side. We wish The Queens luck and hope they will go forward.

Other battalion games resulted as follows:—

v. R.A.M.R.—won—4–1.
v. R.A.M.R.—draw—0–0.
v. R.A.F.—won—4–3.

The wretched weather conditions which have made our Hockey Ground a quagmire have retarded Company games. But a start has been made, and after a few practice games, the inter-company battles for the Hockey Shield will carve their customary course through the chilly season.

Corporals' Mess.

Things have been lively in the Mess recently.

Our Soccer eleven has met and defeated both "B" and "C" Companies and also a team representing the privates of the Battalion, thus making a total of nine matches played and nine matches won.

We have yet "*A*" and "*D*" Companies to meet but of course they are as good as beaten before we play them. (Who said swelled head?)

Whilst on the subject of Soccer I should like to mention that to Cpl. McLean who has just arrived from the Depot we extend the heartiest welcome possible.

With Mc. in the forward line we feel confident of beating any team that is turned out against us.

We have run two very successful dances during the last month.

The first of the season we ran as a "Fancy Dress Dance" on 4th November and a great success it was.

A prize for the best dressed lady and gent. was given and was won in the former class by Miss Martin as an advert. for "Twink Dyes" and in the latter class by Cpl. Cornwell as an advert. for *The Dragon.*"

Many good dresses were in the "Costume Parade" and the Judges had no easy task to select the winners.

Our second dance of the season took place on 2nd December and that also was a success.

In addition to these we are holding practice dances in the Gymnasium every Saturday evening and we expect that every member of the Mess will be able to dance before the season is over.

We had a return shoot with the Sergeants a fortnight ago but they managed to beat us by a margin of nine points.

In the early part of the match we thought we should have to postpone it owing to a competitor failing to group, but after expending 27 rounds, the aforementioned competitor obtained a group and all went swimmingly and the Sergeants won.

We wish to congratulate Cpls. Hubbard and Belsey on the birth of an olive branch each and also all Corporals in the recent Promotion List.

Our best wishes go to Corporal Flood who has just left us for a tour of duty at the Depot, and also our heartiest congratulations to Archie Meakin who has just joined the ranks of "The Benedicts."

Let me whisper my final words, "Peace and England are in sight."

"Bunny."

A Company.

The past month has been eventful in many ways. Once more we are beginning to "Sit up and take notice" at the rumours of an early move to England. Even the pessimists don't put it later than next April. This time it must be more than a pious hope!

In football the company has only been moderately successful. On the 24th of November we were unfortunate enough to be beaten 1–3 by "D" Company.

Our victories were in friendly games against "B" Company (8–1), and the R.A.S.C. Bakery (5–1).

Congratulations to L/Cpl. Perry and Pte. James on their playing for the so far successful Battalion side.

In Hockey we lost to "B" Company (3–1). We are fortunate enough to have five regimental players in our ranks. Sgt. Dixon, Sgt. Burville, L/Cpl. Perry, Pte. Wellard and occasionally Cpl. West.

The members of the Company who entered for the Boxing (and they were far too few!) gave a good account of themselves. On the whole however it must be said that the form shown was *not* up to last year's standard. This however is to a certain extent accounted for by a very short training period.

Finally we most heartily congratulate C.S.M. and Mrs. Follett, Sgt. and Mrs. Truby, Cpl. and Mrs. Hubbard and Pte. and Mrs. Woolhead upon the new arrivals in their respective families.

B Company.

Our last Company notes left us just before the celebrations of the anniversary of Armistice Day. The Company was well represented at the Medal presentation parade. At the Sergeants' dance in the evening C.Q.M.S. Burt, with an excellent recitation, and Messrs. Sell Caloo and Co. with their dug-out and rum issue contributed quite successfully to the amusement.

Their whizz bangs and gas alarms were almost too realistic!!

Last month we mentioned the start of the inter-platoon McDouall Shield competition; this has kept us very busy.

The Transport Platoon being formed at the beginning of the month and having been put in as a bye has greatly added to the excitement and so far they are the leaders. They have carried off the Bayonet Fencing and the Tug-of-War and have reached the final of the football by beating No. 7 by 6 goals to 1. The shooting went to No. 5 by a good margin. We were sorry to have to cancel the hockey owing to continued bad weather and Tug-of-war was substituted for the boxing. The final of the football and Company Smoker are now definitely arranged for December 13th.

The Company football Team has been strengthened by the arrival of Pte. Barden from the Depot. We hope to see last week's result against "D" Company reversed when we play them in the Harris Shield on the 9th.

In the first round of the Inter-Company Brigade Competition we met "C" Company and beat them 3–2 after a very exciting game. In the second round last week "D" Company proved too strong for us by 5 goals to 2.

We have only been able to have one practice game of hockey owing to the wet weather but hope to have a pretty useful side to meet "C" Company on the 16th. Farewell and the best of good luck to Ptes. Banks (whose excellent cooking is much missed in the Officers' Mess), Green and Orris who have left us for Civilian life, time expired. Better late than never a word about the boxing. We only had three novices, C.Q.M.S. Burt on his excellent fight and to Pte. Haynes who on his weight with a fine dash and dance.

Dmr. Baker we were very glad to see in the finals of the Brigade boxing; we hope he'll win next time.

We welcome the new arrivals from the Depot and wish you all a Happy New Year.

C Company.

We have all been very busy during the past month with various forms of sport. We met B Company in the 1st Round of The Harris Shield, at Football and after a hard game drew with them, the score being 3–3. We met B Company again in the Garrison Cup Competition and lost 2–1. We missed Shaw very much in this game, as he is the main stay of the Half-Back Line, and was unable to play. The Inter-Platoon Football Competition is going strong and there have been some very keenly contested games. On two occasions No. 11 drew with the Machine Gun Platoon, but were finally beaten 3.0, in spite of the efforts of Booth and Johnson. No. 10 eventually beat No. 9 and in a friendly No. 9 drew with No. 12.

We had a good number of entries from the Company in the Novices Boxing Competition. Pte. Williams won the Welter Weight with Cpl. Wilcox as runner up. Pte. Davis won the Middle weights. In the Brigade Boxing Competition Williams was the runner up in the Welter Weights.

So far we have only been able to have one game of Hockey owing to the state of the ground, but it is already evident that we have some quite promising Hockey players if they will only learn to be a little less wild.

Congratulations to No. 11 Platoon in being 3rd in the inter-platoon Field Firing Competition.

We welcome Corporal McLean to the Company. He has taken Cpl. Flood's place on the Football Committee. We are glad to note that he has already made his presence felt in the Regimental Football Team.

(Continued at foot of next page.)

The Army Encyclopædia.

DISCIPLINE.—The process of taking away a man's freedom and obliging him to knuckle under. Prevalent in the army in various guises, such as the Roll of Defaulters and the Married Roll.

DISCORD.—A drum and fife band.

DISMISSED.—That which all soldiers like their parades and their cases.

DISMOUNT.—The second lesson usually to be learned on a course of equitation, invariably following immediately, with the animal's enthusiastic assistance, after the first lesson in mounting.

DISTANCE (JUDGING).—A well-known pastime carried out in the army every quarter. Being essential to military training, it does not come under the official ban placed by the law upon other guessing competitions. The requirements are :—

(1) *Landscapes* 1. (With plenty of detail and, above all, one in which the objects visible are at a distance from the point of observation.)
NOTE :—Tending as they do to distract the attention of the contestants, stray rabbits and courting couples should always be removed before commencement of the practice.

(2) *Marindin Rangefinders.* 1. (Complete with operator who should be separated from the contestants by barbed wire entanglements, and should be gagged.)
NOTE :—The operator ascertains the correct distances to the objects selected, and communicates them (officially), only to the judge.

(3) *Officers, Sprinklings of.* 1. To watch fair play.

(4) *N.C.O.'s and men, Selections of.* 1. (Each being armed with a rifle, not, as may be supposed, to shoot the Rangetaker, but on the backsight of which to record his guess for each distance.

Having had an object pointed out, each man says it can't be less than 20 yards, nor more than 2,000, and with the assistance of a little bird hovering up to now, in the vicinity of the Rangetaker, he pushes up the slide of his backsight, and the place where it stops when the gong sounds is the correct distance—(occasionally).

NOTE :—Those who guess accurately wear a star, and those who guess very accurately indeed wear two or three stars.

DISTEMPER.—That with which a married amateur paints the walls of his quarters to say nothing of himself and the floor.

DIZZY.—The pet name given to those of the family of BURTON, derived, it is thought, from one's condition after indulging in the products of the town of that name, situated on the River Trent.

The 1st Battalion—*continued.*

D COMPANY.

We are feeling rather pleased with ourselves for we have done well at football lately. On November 16th we played "A" Company in the Harris Shield Competition, and beat them 2–1. On the 21st November we beat them again 3–2, in the Brigade inter-Company Competition. On the 2nd December we met "B" Company in the same competition and beat them 5–2, and on December 9th we beat the same Company again, 4–1, in the Harris Shield Competition. As we have beaten all the other Companies in the Brigade Competition we are in hopes of beating all our other opponents and coming out on top at the end.

In the Brigade Boxing Competition our particular luminaries were Sgt. Gibson, who won the Heavy Weight, and L/Cpl. O'Hagon who was runner up for the Bantams. O'Hagan deserves a special word of praise, for he fought his way through with great determination and pluck. In his final fight he met a man of much greater strength. Several times he was floored, but repeatedly got up and fought on in a most plucky manner, until finally knocked out for the full count. But O'Hagan possesses a good style of boxing, and should go a long way in the future if he sticks to the game as well as he has in the past. O'Hagan was awarded a special good loser's prize. On the 13th November he won the Battalion Novices competition in his weight.

Colonels of the Buffs.

No. 4. **John Sheffield, 3rd Earl of Mulgrave, afterwards 1st Duke of Buckingham,**

Colonel of the Buffs, 1673-1682 and 1684-1685.

AT the age of twenty-three and although in the whole course of his life he had not been three months afloat, Lord Mulgrave was appointed captain of a ship of eighty-four guns, reputed the finest in the Navy; a few months later, as soon as he came back from sea, he was made Colonel of the Buffs. He may thus be said to have been born under a lucky star, and he took good care to keep it ever in the ascendant. Most versatile of men, he was before all else a courtier; in fact he aspired to the hand of the Princess Anne and was relieved of all his honours in consequence, including his colonelcy of the Buffs. In 1684 however he was reinstated and was granted still higher office; he was re-appointed Colonel of the Buffs but resigned the following year on being made Lord Chamberlain and Vice-Admiral of York, he was created Duke of Buckingham in 1702; he built Buckingham House (now Buckingham Palace) where he died in 1721, and was buried in Westminster Abbey. A poet himself, though not a very good one, he was the friend of Pope and patron of Dryden; a historian, though not always reliable when describing his own deeds, his "Account of the Revolution" was well spoken of at the time; he was an eloquent speaker and of extremely handsome appearance. Brilliant and self-seeking, he drained the cup of success to the dregs, but left few friends to mourn his death. "He was a libertine without that openness of heart and hand which sometimes make libertinism amiable, and a haughty aristocrat without that elevation of sentiment which sometimes makes aristocratical haughtiness respectable."

The life of the regiment during this time was on the whole peaceful. A contingent was sent with the expedition to Virginia in 1675. In 1678 the establishment of the Buffs was much increased and a battalion was sent to Flanders, and was commanded by Lieut.-Coll. Lord Middleton at Bruges; in the same year a grenadier company was raised for the first time. It is interesting to note that in 1682 Charles II. founded Chelsea Hospital, at the instigation, it is said, of Nell Gwynne who had been moved to pity at the tale of woe of a destitute old veteran.

F. W. T.

B. & W. FISK-MOORE,
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The 2nd Battalion.

HEADQUARTERS.

C.O. Lt.-Col. W. H. Trevor, D.S.O., Officiating Colonel Commandant 52nd Bde.
2nd in Command: Bt.-Lt.-Col. R. Bright, on Senior Officers' Course.
Adjutant: Capt. G. R. Howe.
Quartermaster: Capt. A. Corney, M.B.E.
Transport Officer: Lieut. D. S. Lister, M.C.
R.S.M.: R.S.M. A. W. Andrews, D.C.M.
Bandmaster: Mr. C. B. Hewett.
R.Q.M.S.: R.Q.M.S. W. Edwards, M.S.M.
Orderly Sgt.: Q.M.S. (O.R.S.) G. F. Ings, M.S.M.
Pioneer Sgt.: Sgt. A. Goldfinch, D.C.M.
Signalling Sgt.: Sgt. J. Hamblin, M.S.M.
Transport Sergt.: Sgt. E. Dowse, M.M., M.S.M.
Sgt. Drummer: Sgt.-Dr. P. O'dell.
Band Sgt.: Sgt. C. Herbert.
Orderly Room Clerk: Sgt. G. Ricketts.

THE SERGEANTS' MESS.

What one may term a re-union has taken place here (Amara) both in members, and the return to more civilized conditions. The popular opinion of this place is that it is A.1., and already one can see waist lines increasing with good feeding, assisted by "Beds, Spring, 25 issued per company." Whilst on the topic of waist lines it is found that Billy Upsom has "taken the belt." What a fine climate Bangalore must boast of to fill a C.Q.M.S.'s jacket like it has Billy's.

Of our move down from Kirkuk to Amara I will only dwell on the most important events.

From Kerkuk to Baiji, the rail head, was a series of marches, the commencement of each took place in the chilly dawn, or to be precise just prior to "break-o-day," and, as it seemed, for the "umpteenth" time we endeavoured to get off the scratch.

At Fattah R.Q.M.S. Edwards paid us a visit from Baiji, which was only 12 miles distant. He brought the news that the "leave party" with a few exceptions were awaiting us there. The exceptions were "Peter" Jackson (the dry old stick) Cr. Sgt. Tong, and Skipper Webb. The first two mentioned are at Basrah in the hands of the Dentist,' and the latter remained at Bangalore owing to sickness.

We are by the way, looking forward to further discourses by Peter on the Labour question, and hope to get his views on forming a Rotary Club.

At Fattah Buster O'Dell tried to ruin his drummers nerves by telling the C.O. (when asked how much tea he would require for one "Gunfire" issue) that he required 8 lbs. for 50 men.

On reaching Baiji, Cpl. Hollis, who was A/Camp Sgt.-Major had a fine spread for W.O.'s and C.Q.M.S.'s, his one regret being that he had not the convenience to entertain all members of the Mess.

I should like, through the columns of *The Dragon*, to express the thanks of all those he entertained at Baiji, and also of members who passed through his camp at different times. One was always sure of a welcome at all times, and the hard work he put in (he did all his own cooking) was appreciated by all. The leave party looked robust, and soon fitted in to their respective jobs. "Darky" Ings was soon despatching the correspondence. Quite a treat to see the familiar "Forwarded for necessary action direct,"...He's still got the blue pencil for correction purposes, but since his arrival back, uses a little red for a change.

"Miki" Dowse got rid of his mules at Baiji, and he was not the only one glad to see the last of them, ask Sgt. Dennis the A/C.S.M. of *the* "E" Coy., he says "its hell loading 'em up in the dark," the C.Q.M.S. of that Coy. could say a lot, but after doing "dives for safety" on several occasions at 0300 hrs. under and between the Army's substitute for an intelligent man, he remains speechless.

We entrained for Baghdad on 6/10/21, and on arrival there, one of the first to meet us was Sgt. MacMahon looking fit, but less corpulent. The same day we continued our journey by train to Kut, leaving "C" Coy. behind to bring on the heavy baggage.

Fortune favoured us from Kut to Amara the trip being done in three days, and only managed to foul sand banks on two occasions. Reaching Amara "off loading was soon completed, and quarters occupied.

'Tis a treat to look round a full mess once more, also to see the C.Q.M. Sgts. on "Ceremonial" (known as "Left Ornaments" when the Battalion is in line) which reminds me that in spite of his "left ornaments" one C.S.M. in correcting the dressing of his C.O. went beyond him, and said rude things to a man *not* in his C.O.

Sgt. Ricketts proceeded on leave to India "to visit families but some say he's gone to look for the Platoon he lost on R.S.M. parade recently. Sand Flies thrive in this place and "George" Coaster spent a night on the Re-Mount Guard "a-scratching hisself to death," said he would sooner spend a night in the trenches.

The R.S.M. I believe had a meeting of the "Avents" called just prior to Guard Drill (*Not* Redshans 'Avents), It appears that these N.C.O.'s and men were termed as such because they 'Avent done a Guard for several moons. By the way I met "Buster" O'Dell and he informed me joyfully that he'd found an egg in his Poultry Run, but on examination it was found to be hard boiled, placed there by a Drummer to encourage "local production."

I must offer apologies at the lack of sporting news, but having been on the move has caused this. Whilst here we shall "carry on" once more, and hope next month to devote more space to sport. None have felt any evil effects from the use of Enos, as baking powder, (C.S.M. Guerin says it is a capital substitute) and it will be alright so long as the cook's hand does'nt slip.

These notes must not be closed before belated congratulations are offered to Sgt. Shoebridge on his becoming engaged (young rascal I have only just heard about it) and all members wish him the best of luck. The Battalion, to a man join us in welcoming Lt. Col. Trevor D.S.O., who as Commander (for 8 months) of the 52nd Brigade was the last British Officer to leave Kirkuk.

"A.B." 70."

A KIRKUK SCENE.

A dog with a tin can tied to it's tail—The dog can go fast, so can the can. Can the dog go as fast as the can can; or can the can go—

[*Enough! for Heaven's sake bring the 2nd Buffs home. They're going mad.—Editor.*]

A "LITTLE TIN GOD'S" DREAM.

From G.H.Q. and sleeping suits
I found myself recalled,
My staff coat went and also boots
Exchanged—I'm "overhauled."

On guard parade I creep at morn
(With thoughts afar in Baghdad fair)
A roar——"On Prade!"—I stumble there
With Chin Strap down, and pale and worn.

He looks at me with eagle eye
"You—a guard you havent"—!
"No Sir, 'tis so—I drew a bye
Instead I had a bed to fill."

(Continued on next page.)

The 2nd Battalion—*continued.*

The R.S.M., his memory's good
My sleeping suit he's sent to rest
Shot socks no more—a bed of wood
" Two on four off," he says that's best.

He said " you think you're " God's Tin One "
But now you're here, and staying long
Its time some guards and parades were done
I shudder—wake—my terror gone.

Amara. J. A. S.

HOCKEY.

A rather unusual Hockey Tournament, the results of which are given below, has just been completed between the 2nd Battalion and the 15th Lhudiana Sikhs who have been stationed in Kirkuk together since February last.

On account of the comradeship and esteem felt for each other among all ranks of the two battalions it was decided to have an inter-company Hockey Tournament for which two cups were to be presented. The winning company to receive a cup from the losing battalion and the best company in the losing battalion to receive a cup from the winning battalion. These cups to be replayed for whenever the two battalions are stationed together again.

On both cups side by side are engraved the crests of the regiements with the winners, place and date inscribed underneath.

Thus will be commemorated for many years to come a comradeship engendered while serving together in Mesopotamia.

Results.

1st Round.	C Coy., 15th Sikhs *v.* E. Coy., The Buffs.	Result	0—0
	C Coy., 15th Sikhs *v.* E Coy., The Buffs (replay)	,,	2—1
	D Coy. 15th Sikhs *v.* A Coy., 15th Sikhs	,,	1—0
2nd Round.	D Coy. The Buffs *v.* B Coy., The Buffs	,,	6—0
	H.Q. Coy. 15th Sikhs *v.* C Coy., The Buffs	,,	1—0
	C Coy., 15th Sikhs *v.* D Coy. 15th Sikhs	,,	4—3
	B Coy. 15th Sikhs *v.* A Coy. The Buffs	,,	4—1
Semi-final.	D Coy. The Buffs *v.* H.Q. Coy. 15th Sikhs	,,	2—0
	B Coy. 15th Sikhs *v.* C Coy. 15th Sikhs	,,	3—0
Final	D Coy. The Buffs *v.* B Coy. 15th Sikhs	,,	3—1

The Final took place on September 4th and the Team was as follows : Goal, L/C. Lawry ; Backs, Pte. Lee, Cpl. Pack ; Half-Backs, Capt. Rice, Lt. Penlington, Pte. Godden ; Forwards, Pte. Crowley, Sgt. Coaster, Lt. Cartwright, Pte. R. Freeman, L/Cpl. Dray.

The game was very evenly contested throughout and very fast. Cartwright scored twice in the first half, his second shot being hit from the junction of the circle, and the behind line. Towards the end of the first half Gurbachan Singh and Gopal Singh made one or two fine runs right through on the left wing but their centres failed to materialize.

In the second half the Sikhs were several times in the circle, through the excellent play of Subedar Sardara Singh at outside right and Naik Bisha Singh at centre half, but only scored once. L/C. Lawry was very accurate in goal. Just before time Sgt. Coaster ran through from a pass of Penlington's and scored an excellent goal.

The Sikh forwards were very quick on the ball and Penlington who as usual was very prominent had his work cut out to stop them. Godden, the Buffs' left half shewed promise especially as the well known Sikh regimental player, Subedar Sardara Singh was opposed to him.

Cpl. Pack and Pte. Lee played their usual steady game at back, and it is owing to the complete understanding between these two regimental players which makes D Company defence so formidable.

CRICKET.

We played our first Regimental match for 18 months against S.T.C. Amara who were strengthened by Major Nealor, I.M.S., an old M.C.C. player. We played on matting and had had no practice but we did quite well under the able leadership of Capt. Hamilton, who used his bowlers with great skill.

We were sent in to bat and opened with Pte. Butler (D Company) and Lieut. Chester. At 14 Chester was out to a brilliant catch at deep mid off when he looked like staying. L/Cpl. Rowley, A Company, was soon bowled by a bad ball. Lieut. Cartwright followed and left quickly playing on off his pads. Butler cut a ball off Barlow had to point high up, which resulted in a really great catch. Another good batsman out to an extraordinary good catch. Four wickets down for 22 looked ugly until Lieuts. King and Penlington were together—the former played a useful innings of 13 but the hero of our side was Lt. Penlington who played a great innings of 25 giving only one difficult chance. He was good through the covers and took one " six "—he fell to an atrocious ball. Hamill-Stewart played well for his 7. Our opponents fielded well but there was really nothing in their bowling to account for our collapse, but their catching was really good.

We were all out for 73.

Lts. Chester and Lister opened our bowling and everything looked well when we had 4 of their wickets down for 6—Chester taking all four, two being taken in the slips by Cartwright and two cleaned bowled. Major Nealor and Nassanidin then made a long stand—Nealor was the best bat on either side and made some glorious shots through point and 3rd man. He was beaten by an unplayable ball from Pte. King having made 23. Nassanidin was run out—luckily for us. The remainder made a few runs each and eventually we lost an exciting game—our opponents making 77 for 8 wickets.

Lieut. Chester was our star bowler taking 4 for 18. Pte. Knight (E Company) bowled very well indeed throughout, taking 2 for 10. He's got a natural off-break and keeps a good length. The small score did not permit of Lt. Hamill-Stewart being tried with his "googlies." Lt. Lister was not at his best with his "Gregorian" deliveries but Sgt. Coaster bowled well. Of our fieldsmen L/Cpl. Rowley stood out, his returning being exceptionally good.

SCORES.

2ND BN. THE BUFFS.

Pte. Butler, c Ciriram, b Ibrahim	3
Lieut. Chester, c and b Barlow	10
L/Cpl. Rowley, b Ibrahim	2
Lieut. Cartwright, b Barlow	5
Sgt. Coaster, c Gilbert, b Ibrahim	2
Lieut. King, b Ciriram	13
Lieut. Penlington, b Ajub Beg	25
Capt. Hamilton, b Barlow	0
Lieut. Hamill-Stewart, b Barlow	7
Pte. King, b Ajub Beg	0
Lieut. Lister, not out	3
Byes 1	1
Leg-Byes	1
Wides	1
Total	73

S.T.C.

Ibrahim, c Cartwright, b Chester	3
Barlow, b Chester	0
Gilbert, c Cartwright, b Chester	0
Ajub Beg, c Lister, b Coaster	7
Mr. Cussons, b Chester	0
Major Nealor, b Pte. King	23
Capt. Dobell, b Pte. King	3
Nassanidin, run out	10
Cin Ram, not out	7
Kundaulal, not out	9
Mobd Siddid, did not bat	
Byes	15
Total for 8 wkts.	77

Chester, 4 for 18 ; Lister, 0 for 5 ; Coaster, 1 for 15 ; Cartwright, 0 for 14 ; Pte. King, 2 for 10.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Farley.—On November 2nd, 1921, at Gate House Cottages, Kilndown, to Mr. H. Farley, D Coy., 5th Buffs and Mrs. H. Farley, a son (Reginald Dennis.)

Sayer.—On 18th September, 1920, at the British Station Hospital, Dalhousie, India, the wife of No. 6278112 Cr./Sgt. J. A. Sayer, of a son (Terence Conrad Crowe).

Woods.—At Canterbury, on 20-11-21, the wife of 6278132 Cpl. L. Woods,—a son (Ronald Arthur Woodin).

Belsey.—At Fermoy, on 4/11/21, the wife of 6279478 Cpl. R. Belsey—a daughter (Jessie Reginia).

Hubbard.—At Fermoy, on 14th November, 1921, the wife of 6280376 L/C. S. Hubbard—a daughter (Rosie Illeen).

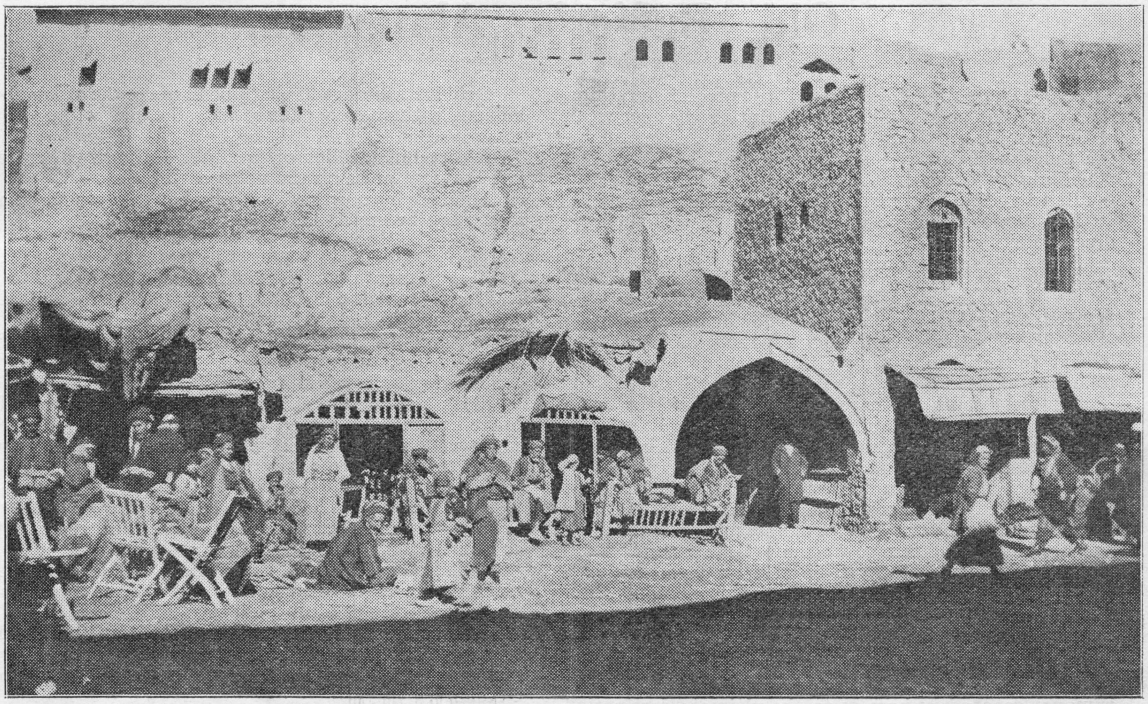
Kingsford.—At Oast Garden, Canterbury, on 7/12/21, to Major and Mrs. G. M. Kingsford—a son.

MARRIAGES.

Collier.—6278086 Sgt. C. Collier, married at Dover, on 24th October, 1921.

In the hands of Sinn Fein.

MAKE certain of obtaining the February issue of The Dragon which will contain the striking and true experiences of one who was captured and held as a prisoner of war by Sinn Fein.



SHOPS IN KIRKUK BAZAAR.

A Tale of Tuscany.

EDGAR Montmorency De Piff Paff was a gentle youth. Once he had been a boy, but with a perseverance worthy of a better cause, he had insisted on growing older and older until he grew out of the childish habit. Then he grew down—the "down" was on his upper lip. Such are the ups and downs of life.

His eye was blue. He had another eye that also was blue. His nose was not a nose of choice, for it was a snub nose, that turned up, quite by chance, when he was a boy.

Had he been anyone else, he might have been heir-presumptive to a dukedom. As it was his father was a prosperous soap-boiler—that is, he boiled his soap until he died, well off for soap, suddenly, and left his son an "heir."

Edgar loved. Indeed, he loved a good many things. for example—wealth, eel-pie, 8 per cent. stock, Margate, marrow-bones. But most of all he was enamoured by one Miss Clementine Chivvychase, the eldest daughter of an Irish peer who lived on his wits.

He wrote to her laying his hand at her feet, accompanied by his name and fortune. He added that he would call for an answer next day. He did. Kneeling on the hearth rug at her feet, he begged of her to answer his suit. She blushed red as fire and spoke not a word. She was very lovely. Her features would have formed a study for a painter. As it was they were usually done by her ladies' maid.

These features consisted of a mouth, a nose, two ears, two blue eyes, and a handful of brown hair curled and parted in the middle. This was she, but that was no adequate reason for her silence. Edgar pressed her—figuratively of course—but she would not open her mouth; she only shook her head so violently that Edgar wondered her teeth didn't chatter. But they didn't!

He waited two hours and a half and then gave it up. Failing to prevail on her to accept him he immediately went home and married his grandmother to shew his contempt for the hollowness of the world.

But he learnt the reason for Clementine's silence too late!

Just now I drew her eyes, her ears, her mouth, and her hair,

But I didn't draw her teeth! No, the dentist anticipated me. To be sure she had a splendid action; indiarubber gums, jewelled in four holes. But unluckily when Edgar called that day, they were upstairs in the top left-hand drawer. What could she do? When Edgar proposed she was compelled to remain silent; she could not even gnash her teeth in despair!

At last when he had gone she saw it was too late. She burst into tears, fled upstairs, and ground them in the coffee-mill.

So they weren't married and lived happily ever after.

W.H.R.

An Apology and An Appeal.

WE hasten to apologise to Messrs. H. and G. Simonds Ltd., whose advertisement appears on our inside front cover, for the unfortunate omission of their advertisement in our Christmas number; and to express our appreciation of the kind way the firm have overlooked the oversight on our part.

And perhaps we may be excused if we associate these few words with a general appeal to our readers to patronize during 1922 those firms who are supporting *The Dragon*. This we think would be a good Resolution for the New Year, if for no other reason that it would bring the very best possible value to those who adopt it, and at the same time help *The Dragon* very considerably. So our appeal is "Don't forget our Advertisers."

Old Buffer's Almanack.

(*For the Year* 1922).

JAN. The prophet is obliged to predict anything but peace and goodwill during the first week of the New Year. Many men will parade at the appointed time for their pay, only to find that they have but a shilling to draw owing to being in debt, which all points to a state of gloom, poverty and disappointment.

Defaulters will have a bad time, and will undergo much suffering.

Sergeant-Majors will continue to haul all and sundry over the Coals, and all ranks will continue to grouse.

FEB. The Announcement of a forthcoming wedding between a Buff and a young lady may be looked forward to during either this or one of the following months.

An unsympathetic crowd of foreign nations have all their eyes on John Bull, who is seen to be frantically trying to juggle with a dozen or so awkward questions at the same time.

Ireland, Bolshevism, Indemnities, Midnight Follies, Army Married Allowance, *Dragon* Subscribers, Starving Russians, and plays by G.B.S. are among those puzzling propositions giving him so uncomfortable a time.

The weather is likely to be cold, and gloomy with heavy snowstorms, and the authorities may order that "Table B" this year be fixed during February by way of a change.

MARCH. The Prophet would not be at all surprised if some strange, not to say alarming rumours, reached us here as to the ultimate destination of a certain Battalion of The Buffs. The truth of these reports will not be proven.

From H.M. Stationery Office may come some news of the most astounding nature heralding the issue of a new edition of King's Regulations and other Army Text Books brought right up to date with all amendments.

Great activity may therefore be expected in the mental wards of our military hospitals; and armies of clerks at present retained on orderly Room Staffs for the purpose of trying to catch up outstanding amendments will be returned to duty.

APRIL. Many days of sunshine may be enjoyed this month, and the retail prices of goloshes and mackintoshes will show a marked decline. Ladies' hose will begin gradually to be altogether discarded. Large numbers of our male population will be treated for a mysterious epidemic of some kind of eye-strain, and opticians will enjoy marked prosperity.

MAY. That most important question, drink, will about now come to the fore. The Old Buffer would not for one moment mock at efforts of worthy people whose endeavour is to preach temperance for all, but he feels bound to say, that while the efforts of Pussyfoot will be intensified in his endeavour to put down the drink, the efforts of the populace towards letting it run down naturally will be intensified in proportion, and "when" will remain just as popular an English word as ever it was.

JUNE. Defaulters will have a bad time and will undergo much suffering.

The weather will be, like those merchants who, during April sold their goloshes and mackintoshes at a low figure, wild.

All those who were born in the month following May, will have a birthday, provided they are still alive.

JULY. During this month the birth-rate, if it is not stationary, will show either an upward or a downward tendency.

Drill instructors will continue to make the atmosphere hideous with their cavilling, and all ranks will continue to grouse.

A certain Battalion of the Buffs will now either have left Fermoy, or be on the point of doing so.

Summer by now having fairly set in, deep snow and frost may be expected.

AUG. The Old Buffer predicts that during this month an old Soldier will, contrary to all tradition, contrive to die, as also will the old time saying that old Soldiers never do!

Many of the troops will parade at the appointed time for their pay, only to find they have but a shilling to draw owing to being in debt.

With genuine regret the Prophet predicts that a few brave hearted Gentlemen will be hurried off to Hanwell, consequent upon being observed surrepticiously surrendering their seats to ladies in the Tube.

SEPT. It is not at all improbable that during this month a terrible heat wave will scourge the country.

Disbandments of military units will by now have reached the high water mark, and few, if any, beside the Buffs, will remain.

The Prophet predicts with profound satisfaction that the retention of the latter in the British Army will ever remain a stumbling block in the path of unrepentent Germany.

OCT. It is more than likely that about now we may be startled by the somewhat astonishing news from Palestine, in the shape of undeniable proof that the Centurian's servant was a Buff detached on Staff employ.

The Military men employed on Amendments who were returned to duty during March, will now be reinstated in greatly augmented numbers.

NOV. The Old Buffer sees with much satisfaction the almost universal adoption of celery water as a remedy, and the Lady Editress who introduced it will be rewarded with an illuminated address from the Secretary of the Save the Children—or is it Chilblains—Fund.

Great excitement will be aroused at the news that a certain London daily has found a sample of milk without a microbe, to be supplemented later by the epoch-making discovery by a naturalist of a thousand million microbes without any milk.

There is likely to be unprecedented activity in the Barracks department, owing to the receipt by them of explicit instructions to exchange, free of cost, articles no longer serviceable.

DEC. Mild excitement will be occasioned by the discovery of yet another "last man of the B.E.F." on duty in an old billet in the Somme Area, who will hurriedly be sent home.

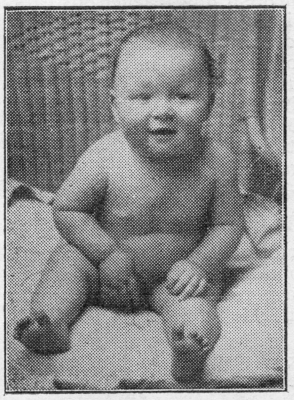
It will be remembered that last year, owing to the alarming decline in the birth rate in France, bonuses for babies were offered by the state. In spite of these inducements to provide larger families, the Old Buffer predicts with sorrow that the birth rate will continue to decline.

Some of our latest recruits will encounter a good deal of adverse criticism just now, particularly while on parade.

The Battalion of the Buffs at present at Fermoy will by now either have left the Station, or be on the point of doing so.

The Ladies.

By The Lady Editress.



"Young Waxy."

HERE we have "Young Waxy," otherwise Wilfred Henry Bruce Holmes, born 11th February, 1921, weight to date 24 lbs., who is the son of 6278034 Sgt. ("Waxy") Holmes, Master Shoemaker of the 1st Battalion, and who is certainly well up to the standard of The Buffs.

As also is Norah Adelaide Cox, daughter of Sgt. F. Cox or the Depot. Age 5 months; weight 18¾ lbs. whose photograph will be found at the foot of the next column.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking those who are helping me with this page by sending me photographs of their "Bonny Buffs Kiddies" and I hope that many more will reach me. Perhaps when we have published a dozen or so we might have a prize for the bonniest, leaving it to my readers to do the voting. Some might like to let me have their views on this suggestion.

Good Wishes.

I am much encouraged by receiving Christmas and New Year wishes in the form of a Christmas card from the Buff Families in India, to whom I should like to extend every good wish. By the way, I am more than glad to hear that arrangements have been made, by which some at any rate of the 2nd Battalion Married Families will be able to join their husbands at Aden, and I look forward soon to being able to publish the story of their move, and how they found things on arrival at their new station. May they have the very best of good luck will be the wish of everyone.

On Dancing.

The craze to-day is most certainly dancing, and seldom a day passes that we do not hear of some new novelty for the ball room. Now apparently the Fox Trot, the "Sniminy," and the One Step, etc., are all to give way to the "Argentine Tango" and "The Chicago Toddle" and if my *Daily Mail* is right the new developments are so rejuvenating that they are even being enjoyed by old ladies who, in past years, have looked askance at modern dancing, and have been content to stay at home and retire to bed at an early hour! Whilst on the subject of dancing I take the following "Dont's for Dancers" from our contemporary *Home Chat.*

Dont's for Dancers.

Don't keep your knees bent. You have, of course, to bend them slightly when taking certain steps, but don't keep them bent all the time.

* * *

Don't hold your right arm stiffly, or your partner will find you "heavy," however light your steps.

* * *

Don't, for goodness' sake, wear a painstaking or worried look.

* * *

Don't bend either too far backward or forward. Keep the body in an upright position, but not stiff.

* * *

Don't "woolgather" while dancing. You need to be alert, or you will not be able to follow your partner's guidance.

* * *

Don't carry a vanity-bag when dancing—it looks awkward and ugly.

* * *

Don't, whatever you do, dance jerkily—every movement should be as quiet and smooth as possible.

Don't throw your feet about. Each step should be made neatly, whatever its length.

* * *

To which I should like to add: "Don't look self-conscious, and don't keep your eyes on the floor."

Some Home Hints.

The work of cutting up dates, figs or raisins can be better and more quickly done if you first butter the blades of the scissors.

To remove ink from a carpet, rub a cut lemon over the stain immediately.

If your sponge is full of grease, soak it overnight in vinegar. Wash it out in the morning and it will be like new

Rusty knitting needles can be cleaned by rubbing with a cinder.

What do you think?

When travelling by train the other day, I was much amused over a violent argument between what appeared to me to be a very recently married young couple. It being the early train, they had not had time before starting to read their letters which they had brought with them. She had three, and He had one—and that only the usual Christmas bill. Well after She had finished hers, she put them in her purse bag, whereupon He immediately demanded to see them. "Not a bit of it" She said rather petulantly and then added:—"These are *my* letters from *my* friends, and they are not for anyone to read, including you darling, except myself. Whereupon he got very annoyed and—so like a man—sulked for the remainder of the journey. All of which opens up the "Bone of Contention"—to use a term so well known to the *Dragon* nowadays—"Should a husband expect to read his wife's letters!"

I refrain from expressing my own views but should very much like to hear "What do you think?"

Our Knitting Competition.

Having had to go to press so early this month owing to the Christmas holidays, I am holding over the particulars of the Knitting competition until next month, when the names of all entries, and full particulars of the articles sent in etc., will be published, together with the names of the prize winners.

Norah Adelaide Cox.

J. HUNT & SONS

Drapers, Men's Hosiers
House Furnishers

LARGE STOCKS OF
RELIABLE & HIGH CLASS GOODS
AT POPULAR PRICES

1—6 Mercery Lane, CANTERBURY

The Fairy Ring.

OUR SERIAL STORY.

Chapter III. *In which the Hero sees a face from the dead and commits petty larcency.*

ONCE on board Hugh decided that, since no progress was likely to be made until he actually set foot in America, he might make himself as comfortable as possible; and supplied as he was with a sufficiency of good American greenbacks, and travelling as a first class passenger, he had no concern but to avail himself of such luxury as the Transatlantic Steamship Company provided.

Next morning, after a good night's rest of which he stood in such need, he appeared late and found the saloon almost empty. Whilst he was waiting for his breakfast, he took the opportunity of studying his fellow-passengers. Most had already breakfasted; but his attention was immediately attracted by his vis a vis, an unusually large man, florid, overbearing and masterful, whose chief object seemed to be the disposal of a Gurgantuan breakfast.

The fascination of watching the very liberal supply of food vanishing at such a prodigious rate, precluded him from paying any attention at first to the companion of the hearty breakfaster. But when at last his gaze lighted upon her, he experienced a thrill of joyful amazement; for there, before him was Sheila, whom he had last seen a mangled corpse at the foot of the old oak—his Sheila—the Sheila for whom he had risked so much.

"Sheila": he exclaimed, in spite of himself, "I thought....." The lady's companion checked his heavily laden fork in mid-air, and glowering at Hugh, inquired menacingly—

"Sir, are you addressing my wife?"

Hugh mumbled with difficulty a word of apology, for his eyes were riveted on the fleshy hand of his interrogater, the third finger of which was encircled by the most unique ring Hugh had ever seen. It was hardly a piece of masculine jewellery; for on a plain gold hoop was the figure of a winged woman traced in brilliants and emeralds.

Why was this man wearing such a srtange ring? It surely must be either for some sentimental or sinister reason. His appearance did not suggest the idea of sentiment; but he might easily be a conspirator in some gang or secret society. It must surely be "The Fairy Ring"!

Hugh decided that the best policy to adopt would be to further his acquaintance, and accordingly he pulled himself together and said—

"I must apologise, Sir, in having appeared to be so rude to your wife; but the fact is she bears a most striking resemblance to my late fiancee who died in the most mysterious circumstances." And Hugh briefly recounted the details of Sheila's death, omitting of course his subsequent adventures; for he had to be guarded, since he might even now be in the enemy's camp.

Their friendship ripened during the course of the voyage, and Hugh learned that his friends, Mr. and Mrs. Silas K. Bunker were bound for New York City; and on their third day of the voyage Hugh felt he really was on the right track at last, for Mr. Bunker suddenly, and for no apparent reason ceased from wearing the ring.

On the evening before the ocean greyhound was due to steam into New York harbour, Hugh determined on a bold plan; to acquire the ring, which might help him solve the baffling problem on which he was engaged. At two bells, a solitary, pyjama clad figure crept stealthily down the companion-way and made for the Bunker's cabin. His heart beat faster as he approached the state room occupied by the girl who was so strangely like his dead Sheila.

His hand shook as he cautiously tried the door, but putting aside all misgivings, he crept noiselessly inside. He listened but no sound of breathing reached his ears. Tentatively, and with palpitating heart he switched on the electric light. The apartment was empty and the twin beds had evidently not been slept in that night.

After a hurried search round the room, his eye fell upon a stud box. Prising it open with a pair of scissors which he took from the Dressing Table, he saw with delight the glittering object of his quest.

(*To be continued next month*).

Our Competitions.

THE closing down of our competitions seems to have afforded a little disappointment in some quarters. Here are two letters we have received, and we would welcome others bearing on this subject.

Dear Editor,

I regret to note the lack of response to your call for participation in the Competitions. Evidently they do not appeal.

May I suggest a Football Competition on the lines of those run by most weekly papers? The Buffs are all keen on Soccer and I think would buy up all copies they could get in order to forecast a few Soccer results and possibly win an attractive prize.

Yours sincerely.

Fermoy, E. CORK. "OBSERVER."

[*We should like to have opinions from our readers on this subject, bearing in mind that we are a monthly and not a weekly publication, and that entries and quick results are not easy whilst the 1st and 2nd Battalions are in Ireland and Mesopotamia respectively.*]

AND THE OTHER.

Sir,

I should like to put forward a suggestion as regards competitions in *The Dragon*—there are, in this battalion several men who go in for photography—as no doubt there are in the other battalions and the Depot.

Why not hold a monthly competition for (1) Buffs abroad, (2) Buffs at home? The latest *Dragons* have contained quite a few photos, and I am sure these greatly added to the interest of the paper.

As regards prizes, these need not necessarily be a first, second and third, with proportionate amounts. Five shillings for each photo accepted, could be given. The monthly limit of photos so sent, to be limited to four per issue. Competitor being allowed to send in as many photos as he likes.

Officers might also send along photos of Regimental interest, no prizes given, and these may be published extra with above.

Yours truly,

Amara, 20/11/21. W. H. ROWE.

[*This is a suggestion which we gladly adopt, and we look forward to receiving many interesting and amusing snapshots of life in The Regiment. Ed.*]

To Our Correspondents.

WE would be grateful if Correspondents, when communicating with us, would not only sign their names, but also mention ranks, or former ranks, decorations, late Battalions, and as many other particulars suitable for our Personalia Column as possible.

This would also assist us greatly in the Compilation of records necessitated by our new feature, "The Enquiry Bureau."

And at all times we are glad to receive short articles, sketches, drawings, and news, etc., in keeping with the paper. Manuscript should be written on one side of the paper only, and should reach the Editor, The Dragon, Depot The Buffs, Canterbury not later than the 14th of each month for publication in the following month's issue.

Mutt and Jeff.

The Buffs Alphabet.

A is ALBUERA, where Latham got his fame.
And added to our record another honoured name.

B, The BUFFS, the regiment that's known the whole world through.
A regiment of pedigree, whose sons are truest blue.

C of course, is COLOURS, with Honours 24.
And more to follow shortly, gained in the latest war.

D comes next, that's DENMARK, whose King is proud to be,
The Colonel of your regiment, the famous number 3.

E then stands for ENGLAND, and like all heroes true,
The Buffs have stood "for England" since 1572.

F is FRITZ, the German, who let the demons loose,
He plainly didn't know The Buffs would help to cook his goose.

G's the GINGER in his pace when forced into retreat.
Helped not a little by the Buffs he didn't care to meet.

H stands for HOLLAND, the land that saw our birth.
Well back in HISTORY'S pages when The Buffs first proved their worth.

I's the INSPIRATION which they have handed down.
Which teaches love of Country, of Empire, King and Crown.

J of course, is JUST Ourselves, the JOURNAL as of yore.
It wants your sketches, verses, jokes, and writings in galore.

K is KENT, the county which breeds such men as Moys,
As Cotter, Smith, and Hundreds more, there's no doubt, they're the boys.

L, another one of them, again we beg to mention,
'Tis LATHAM of the olden days, well worth all your attention,

M's MCLEAN, the Army player, who lately got his cap.
Who's done his bit to keep our name before the "other chap."

N's the NAME the regiment's gained, a name that's unsurpassed.
So take good care to keep it up—Buffs always! First and last!

O's the object of this scrawl, to OPEN wide all eyes.
So that our record none can beat, you all will realise.

P's the PRIVILEGE we have, with which no one dare trifle,
Of marching London City's streets with bayonets fixed on rifle.

Q is QUEEN Elizabeth, who held our first review.
'Twas on the morn of May the 1st, in 1572.

Then **R** to Buffs spells REGIMENT, it is their first concern.
It must be yours where'er you go, which ever way you turn.

S SUGGESTS the SOLDIER, there's soldiers good and bad.
The bad one turns to grousing, the good one knows he's mad.

T comes next, TRADITION, of ours we're justly proud.
So shout it from the housetops, and shout it long and loud.

U's the UNION JACK our flag, much better than the red "un."
If that is all the Bolshies live for, better be a dead "un."

V's the V.C., up above, are one or two that won it.
And little doubt, if in their place, you also would have done it.

Then **W**'s the WAR in which The Buffs played well their part.
They had a name to fight for, 'twas that name that gave them heart.

Letter **X** is 24 in order as we go.
It has just this significance, the Honours are also.

Y's the YOUNGSTER who enlists, take care he reads this through.
It may be poor, but read aright, it means a lot to you.

Z's the ZEAL esprit de corps implants in manhood's breast.
And makes him do the proper thing, when he's put to the test.

Nursery Rhymes Up-to-date.

THERE was a young woman who wore shoes size 2,
She had so many corns, she didn't know what to do,
She would go to a jazz-rag—and limp home half-dead
Then curse them all roundly, and go off to bed.

THE CANADIAN BUFFS.

Dear Sir,

I enclose herewith newspaper reports of a Church Parade held in Toronto on November 13th, being first Sunday after the anniversary of Armistice Day of the Present Members and ex-members of the Queen's Own Rifles. The weather was very bad having snowed and rained alternatively for several days previous, thereby making the streets very slushy indeed, but in spite of this approximately 5,000 ex-members turned out entirely voluntarily, of course, on their part, showing very strongly their loyalty and interest in their old corps.

Recruiting has been coming along slowly and surely and the ranks are gradually being filled by the class of men which the Q.O.R. has always been noted for. It is expected that by the Spring we will be up to full strength.

Yours faithfully,
REG. PELLATT,
Col., Queen's Own Rifles.

Toronto,
24/11/21.

[*The above occasion was also the 61st anniversary of the formation of the Regiment. Ed.*]

FATHER AND SON.

Sir,

In the October issue of *The Dragon* you print a family record of Mr. France of Dover. I have reasons to believe that the Mr. Francis mentioned is my father with whom I have lost touch since 1916, so if you could let me have his address, I shall be extremely obliged.

Yours, etc.,
E. P. FRANCE.

87 Oak Avenue,
Premier Mine,
Transvaal.

[*It has given me great pleasure to have been able to forward the address in question. Ed.*]

FOR SOLDIER'S WIDOWS.

Sir,

It has been brought to our notice that there are very many Widows of N.C. Officers and Privates of the Army who have never heard of this Institution, and who without doubt would be delighted to take advantage of it. So I am desired to ask you, whether you know of any of your Regiment who would like to be told about it.

The principal rules for admission are that they must be between 50 and 70 years of age, have been married with leave; and their late husbands must have had at least 12 years service.

On admission a furnished room and 12/- a week besides other things—such as Coal, Electric Light, etc., etc., is provided to each of those in residence.

Yours truly,
A. C. FRYER, Lt.-Col.,
Secretary.

Royal Cambridge Home for Soldiers' Widows.
5 York Street,
St. James's Square,
S.W.1.

THE BENEVOLENT FUND.

Sir,

Would you kindly acknowledge in the *Dragon* the following subscriptions to the Benevolent Fund.

(1) Collected by 5th Bn. The Buffs ... £2 0 0
(2) Proceeds of Dance of 5th Bn. The Buffs £2 0 0
(3) Collected by Bandsman Moss's Party at football match 1st Buffs *v.* 1st Manchesters £2 4 0
(4) Collected by Bandsman Moss and Party at the Football Match 1st Buffs *v.* 1st Batt. Machine Gun Corps, in which the Buffs won 4–0: £3/8/8.

Yours faithfully,
H. C. MORLEY, Capt.
Hon. Secretary,
The Buffs Benevolent Fund.

The Depot,
Canterbury.

ANOTHER SITUATION WANTED.

Dear Mr. Editor.

Re "Bones of Contention." Amalgamation of Funds. I am very strongly in favour of this—all these little debits and payments are a perfect nuisance to the individual, to say nothing of poor Cox and Co. Just think how much time, ink, etc., would be saved, if one entry in your Pass Book covered the lot. Secondly don't you find it hard to get subscribers to send you their 8/- Subscriptions ?

And now for a suggestion on another subject :—

Free Advertisements in the *Dragon* to *good* old Buffs wanting employment in Civil Life.

I have underlined "Good." Nearly all old Buffs are "good" of course, but I have known one or two, 'nough said.

But I suggest that *free* advertisements should only be given to those who have left the Service with at least "Very Good" Characters.

Wives or daughters of above might also be included.

Personally if ever I want to employ a man or a woman in any capacity I will ask you to put an advertisement in the *Dragon* for me, be it a Buff or a Buffess I want. and I suggest others do ditto. I wouldn't mind a Civil Job myself. Do you think it would be any good inserting the following ad :—

"Required by a Buff officer on the Active List a well-paid job in Civil Life. Age 46, looks (according to *The Dragon*) 20."

Qualifications—Good appetite and thirst, sober, honest, obliging. Recreations—Hunting, Shooting, Polo, Billiards, Fishing, Motoring, Golf, Slippery Slam, and all games of Skill or chance including Racing."

Yours ever,
HAROLD FINDLAY.

H.Q., Cork.

[*For some months now under the heading of "Our Lame Dogs" we have advertised for vacancies, and nothing would please us more than to be able to add "Situations Vacant." Ed.*]

BUFFS AND CLUBLAND.

Dear Sir,

The list in the December *Dragon* of Buffs who have been members of the Naval and Military Club is very incomplete.

Writing from memory only I can add the following names :—

Colonels J. E. Forster, A. H. Coles, H. T. Halahan, N. Newenham-Davis; Majors Lynch, L. T. Spens, C. H. Gordon; Captains Felix Jones, W. H. Wyld, R. W. Martin, H. R. Knight, J. Hughes, C. L. Connellan, A. McLachlan, A. Vickerman, W. S. Stewart-Saville.

I am sure there are a good many others that I can't think of at the moment or that I don't know of.

Yours sincerely,
C. L. CONNELLAN.

Johnstown House,
Carlow.

[*The names of any others are invited.—Ed.*]

"Beneath Bell Harry."

By The Man with the Squeegee.

THERE is something infinitely melancholy about doing a thing for the last time, and, without wishing to intrude one's personality upon this page, we are none the less constrained to observe that the mantle of Elijah must shortly descend upon the waiting and inevitable Elisha. It is also somewhat of a shock occasionally to be brought face to face with the humiliating discovery that no one, least of all onself, is in the least degree indispensable. However that is very much by the way and it is intended as the best sort of farewell, namely a hurried off-hand taking of leave, unattended by any of the horrors of a deliberate and maudlin goodbye.

The demands of the Printers, occasioned by the Christmas Holidays, make it necessary to write these notes for the January number some time before Christmas and therefore it is not with a pen draped uncomfortably with holly that we write nor can we bring ourselves readily to resurrect any of the one thousand and one jests connected with mistletoe. We know that there are people who like a White Christmas because it matches the Christmas cards, but as far as one can see at the moment it will be a green Christmas where mud has not toned it to drab. So much for weather, a topic that has proved such a faithful ally to the writer of these lines since the *Dragon* issued from its new lair.

Let us also let Football and Hockey speak for themselves for once. Another draft has departed to Ireland, conducted thither by Major Gould who was thus able to renew after the lapse of a great many years an acquaintance with the country that is keeping Downing Street busy.

As we observed above, we write some weeks before Christmas and only by reference to a Calendar can one remember what readers will be thinking when they greedily devour this page. It will be nineteen hundred and twenty-two and the world will be saying "Well, let's hope this is going to be a better year" as they have said since the beginning. With that laudably optimistic wish we associate ourselves entirely and hope at least that the New Year will be happy.

The Sergeants' Mess.

The members held another of their very popular whist drives in the mess on 25/11/21. A very pleasant evening was spent and many hopes were expressed that more would follow. 32 games were played and prizes presented by Mrs. Pigott were won as follows :—

Ladies.

1st	Mrs. Dean.	score	231
2nd	Mrs. Keegan	,, ...	225
3rd	Mrs. Hook.	,, ...	187
	Booby Mrs. Wilson	,, ...	178

Gents.

1st.	Mr. Davidson	score	232
2nd	Mr. Hook (Jun.)	,, ...	228
3rd	Major Foster (Concealed Number)		180.

A Travelling Prize of a bottle of Winox was won by Mr. Nightingale.

Corporals' Notes.

Since our last notes went in, we have been in a severe engagement with our friends "The Sergeants," and suffered heavily at their hands. We, the Corporals, challenged them, probably foolish on our part, to an eight a side Billiard Match, and this took place in the Mess by kind permission of our Commanding Officer, on 21st November.

On arrival we were met by R.S.M. Dare, who cordially greeted us and told us to make ourselves properly at home, and enjoy the evening's entertainment, also by R.Q.M.S. Andrews who apparently delights in doing his best to make one feel "At Home."

Right well too did the Members of the Sergeants' Mess do their best to show the spirit of "Bon Camaraderie" for while the various games of Billiards were on, those of us who were not playing were taken on at various games of Cards, *i.e.*, Phat, Crib, etc., and in these only were we able to hold our own and in some cases beat them.

The game of the evening was that between Sgt.-Dr. Clayton and Cpl. McLean. Both played a fine game, and the advatnage being with the Sgt.-Drummer who was playing at home. Cpl. McLean did excellently in running out the winner, after being somewhat behind at the commencement of the game.

Below is the result of the various games of 100 up :—

Sergeants.		Corporals.	
C.S.M. Pigott	100	Cpl. Wright	67
C.S.M. Couchman	100	L/C. Bradley	62
C.Q.M.S. Jones	100	Cpl. Hills (R.A.M.C.) ...	29
Sgt.-Dr. Clayton	90	Cpl. McLean...	100
C.S.M. Mason	100	L/C. Smith	97
Sgt. Beasley	100	L/C. Adams	81
Sgt. Legge	100	L/C. Middleton	

The last two games for want of time were only 50 up and I will not record them except that they were both losses to us.

At the close of the evening the R.S.M. made a short speech, expressing the hope that shortly some of the Corporals would qualify for membership of the Sergeants' Mess and on behalf of the Corporals "Chalky" Wright replied with a short but appropriate word of thanks, voicing a hope that evenings like that may come again, a hope which was echoed by us all.

One other event to record which is as follows :—The Dart Match which was started soon after the official opening of our Mess, was brought to a "Finale" on 2nd December when Cpl. McNeir and L/Cpl. Bradley tested their skill in which the former won. No doubt our friend the "Great Torre" now of the 1st Battalion remembers the above match, and will be pleased to know the result.

We regret to record the departure of McLean from our ranks here in the Depot and wish him the very best of luck during his sojourn with the 1st Battalion, where he has gone, I think we can say, to give a hand to their Soccer Team and may he prove as useful there as he did here. Good Luck Mac. old boy.

Le Petit Corporal.

Football.

3rd December. Buffs *versus* R.F.A. Territorials.

This match took place on the Depot ground which proved a very easy victory for the Depot team who won 21 Goals to Nil.

The following give the results of the Canterbury and District Junior League up to and including Dec. 17th :—

Week Ending December 17th, 1921.

Club.	P.	W.	L.	D.	F.	Goals. A.	P.
Buffs Depot	10	9	0	1	62	2	19
Lesser Stour	7	5	1	1	39	11	11
Baptists	7	4	0	3	21	7	11
Swalecliffe	8	5	3	0	27	15	10
Herne Bay A.	9	4	3	2	13	10	10
Rovers	5	3	2	0	4	5	6
Herne United	10	3	7	0	22	28	6
G.P.O. Engnrs.	8	2	5	1	8	25	6
Old Pals United	9	0	7	2	7	37	2
R.F.A. (T.)	7	0	7	0	3	64	0

Baptist Institute v. Buffs Depot.

The above match took place on the recreation ground, Canterbury, on 26/11/21 and resulted in a goalless draw. The game opened with Goldsack, the Baptist Centre Forward, trying to win his way to goal, when he was neatly pulled up by Parry, the Depot's Central Half who played his usual grand game. It must be noted that the Depot were not at full strength, three of their players playing in a representatives game. R.S.M. Dare, Cpl. McLean and Pte. Ingram playing for the Possibles *v.* Probables. To continue, the second half opened with the Buffs making for their opponents' goal and they were awarded a corner which Cpl. Middleton placed very well but no score came of it. It must be mentioned that here Middleton took a corner which he placed finely to Parry to head into Goal only to be disallowed on account of the Ball not being within a yard of the corner flag when kicked off. Taking the match on the whole The Buffs team were very good in defence but weak in the Forward line.

Boxing.

Some good sport was witnessed at the Gymnasium, when no less than 42 bouts were staged in a novices' boxing tournament, arranged by Sergt. Osborne, who carried out the duties of M.C. The contestants were all recruits of the Depot, and if some were somewhat lacking in science they fully made up for it with the vim and vigour which they put into their work.

The officials included Judge, Capt. F. F. D. Strettell; Timekeeper, R.S.M. Dare; Register Keeper, R.Q.M.S. Andrews.

(Continued on next page.)

The 2nd Battalion—*continued.*

Novice Bantam-Weight Competition.

1st Series: Pte. Longhurst beat Pte. Sandwell on points after a good fight; Pte. Grey beat Pte. Amos; Pte. Heasman beat Pte. T. Smith; Pte. Fox beat Pte. Tallack; Pte. Macdonnell knocked out Pte. Cavell in the third round; 2nd Series: Longhurst knocked out Grey in the first round and Fox knocked out J. Heasman in the first round.

Semi-finals; Longhurst knocked out Fox in the first round; Bourne knocked out Macdonnell in the first round.

Final: Longhurst beat Bourne. This contest was fought at a fast pace throughout. Longhurst gradually outfought his opponent, but the latter was by no means out of the picture and put up a good show.

Novices Feather-Weight Competition.

1st Series: Pte. Foster beat Pte. Curtis—a hard-hitting encounter; Pte. Richards beat Pte. E. Smith; Pte. Bone beat Pte. Shardlow; Pte. Bowman beat Pte. Goodsell after a good fight; Pte. Barrell outclassed Pte. Vietch; Pte. Bradley beat Pte. Phillips—both congratulated on a good plucky fight.

2nd Series: Bone knocked out Bowman in the first round; Barrell knocked out Bradley in the first round; Isted beat Ovenden.

Semi-finals; Bone beat Richards in a pluckily fought contest maintained at a hot pace in which there was very little to choose between the two men; Isted beat Barrell, the latter spraining his wrist.

Final: Bone beat Isted. The latter made his opponent, apparently a boxer of some experience, go all the way. Bone, however, placed the issue beyond doubt in the third round.

Novices Light-Weight Competition.

1st Series: Pte. Beauchamp beat Pte. Morbley—a good fight; Pte. Knight beat Pte. Higgins; Pte. Scott knocked out Pte. Ward in the first round; Pte. Lewis knocked out Pte. Johnson in the first round; byes, Ptes. Heasman, Groombridge, Hill and Clifford.

2nd Series: Beauchamp beat Knight; Lewis knocked out Scott in the first round; Groombridge beat Heasman—a dogged encounter; Hill knocked out Clifford in the second round.

Semi-finals: Hill knocked out Groombridge in the first round.

Final: Beauchamp and Lewis not having appeared in the semi-final, Hill became automatically the winner of this competition.

Novices Welter-Weight Competition.

Semi-finals; Pte. Fittall knocked out Pte. Parsons in the first round; Pte. Read resigned to L/Cpl. Clifton.

Final: Fittall beat Clifford. Fittall, besides having the advantage of height and reach, was more scientific, but his opponent fought pluckily until the fight was stopped in the second round.

Novices Middle-Weight Competition.

Semi-finals: Pte. Pelham had a walk-over, Pte. Pilcher being absent Pte. Carter after some hurricane hitting, was knocked out by Pte. Martin in the first round. The former made a gallant attempt to keep on.

Final: Pelham knocked out Martin in the first round.

The following were the points gained by sections:—

A Coy. No. 2 Section	20
A Coy. No. 3 Section	31
B Coy. No. 1 Section	20
B Coy. No. 4 Section	20

HOCKEY.

16th November at Manston versus R.A.F.

A keen game in which there was some prolific scoring in words, and an excellent exposition of goal keeping by Richards the Depot goalie. Result of game: 10–5 for the Depot. Scorers being: Woods 6, Rev. Hunt 2, Jones 1, Williams 1.

23rd November at Canterbury versus R.A.F.

R.A.F. team appeared to be stronger in this match and were apparently determined to prevent the Rev. Hunt and Sgt.-Dr. Clayton from scoring, for both were well marked.

Soon after the commencement of second half, Sgt.-Dr. Clayton while in opponents' circle became a casualty, and retired after making an effort to score which nearly succeeded.

Result of game: 5–3 for the Depot.

Scorers being:—Jones 2, Rev. Hunt 2, Woods 1.

26th November at Herne Bay versus Herne Bay H.C.

In this match we welcomed the return of Lt. Willows to his position as centre-half.

Adams at right-half played excellently and the result of the game was 9–2 for the Depot.

Scorers being:—Sgt.-Dr. Clayton 5, Rev. Hunt 3, Woods 1.

30th November at Canterbury versus R. West Kent Regt.

A real good game being East and West Kent in which the Rev. Hunt played with his usual dash and scored well. Result 10–5 for Depot.

Scorers being:—Rev. Hunt 5, Sgt.-Dr. Clayton 4, Capt. Strettell 1.

3rd December at Deal versus R.M.L.I.

Played against a stronger team than we met early in the season, besides being handicapped by absence of usual backs.

Depot was 2 goals down in five minutes, probably accounted for by above reasons, as well as being nearly frozen before starting to play.

Result 6–4 against. Scorers:—Rev. Hunt 3, Sgt.-Dr. Clayton 1.

10th December at Wye versus Wye College.

A hard, fast game in which the Depot Team seemed unable to penetrate the defence. Result 4–1 against.

War Medals Distribution.

THE War Office is still being blamed for what is called "slackness and slowness" on the distribution of the British War Medal, the Victory War Medal, and other War Decorations, And, of course, when an ex-soldier finds it is his heart to blame the War Office, he does it heartily. But if blame is justified, does it rest wholly on the broad shoulders of the War Office?

Two facts are over-looked. Over 12 million medals have to be issued and for a long time they have been going out at the rate of 10,000 a day. On the face of it that is a substantial issue and does not appear to suggest slackness. But over against this fact has to be set the second fact that thousands of the medals issued have been returned through the post because those entitled to them have not kept the Record Offices informed of their correct addresses. This is why the War Office has still on hand no less than 1,400 Military Crosses and a number of 1914 Stars, which it is anxious to get rid of.

It cannot hardly be said that those who have been awarded Medals and other decorations are indifferent to their value; and it should be an easy matter to remove the primary difficulty of distribution with which the authorities are faced. Officers who have not received their gallantry decorations should write to the War Office (C.2, Investitures) Whitehall, London, and ex-soldiers should send their present addresses to the Record offices of the Regiments in which they last served.

Still in Hospital.

Major F. W. Tomlinson writes:—

Finding myself recently in the neighbourhood of Orpington and hearing that there was a large Ministry of Pensions Hospital there, I called to find out whether there were any old Buffs and learned that there were seven, all of whom I saw; I think it may interest some of your readers to know their names:

241086 Pte. R. Acomb. late 5th Battn. rheumatoid arthritis (feet).

36759 Pte. A. W. Cooper, late 1st Battn. empyema (hip).

240147 Pte. W. E. Humphrey, late 5th Battn. amputation (leg).

11972 Pte. A. B. M. Kail, late 7th Battn. rheumatism (shrapnel wounds).

7535 Pte. E. T. Mount, late 2nd Battn. lamaria and heart.

L/10754 Pte. T. Noonan, late 3rd Battn. chest.

G/4493 Pte. S. Robinson, late 8th Battn. neurasthenia.

There are at present 886 patients undergoing treatment at the Hospital which is in charge of Colonel A. F. Heaton. It seemed to me to be extremely well run and all the men I spoke to were very contented; they were very pleased to see me because they find life there montonous to a degree, and naturally very few visitors take a personal interest in any indvidual.

Mount is brother to Drummer Mount whom many of us remember at the Depot; he told me that, although his brother has 8 children and himself only 7, he considers that he holds a slight advantage because his are all boys!

[*We have had much pleasure in arranging for a free copy of The Dragon to go to the above each month whilst they are in hospital*].

Picture Framing and Art Depot.
B. & W. FISK-MOORE,
Canterbury.
Tel. 21 X.

"Wipers"—Keep it alive!

TWENTY and thirty and forty years on! What about Wipers then? By that time we two old Majors will have our grown-up grandsons kneeling around and patronising us. We make a picture of ourselves as two gouty old boys sitting smoking after dinner; and in comes a youngster of twenty odd, who has the cheek to address me as 'Uncle,' while my brother as 'Grandfather.' He had been to Belguim on business for the firm, and his return broke into our talk of old times which arose out of the 'jumps' in my brother's thigh stump.

"Well, what about Wipers?"—"I did big business; got fourteen orders for the Electric Stunt."

"Good: but what about the key to the Channel ports and all the 1914—18 fighting? Were'nt you impressed? Expected you back full of a proper respect for your venerable grand-uncle—and his Military Cross—and his mighty good luck in serving two 8-month spells of the Salient."

"Different place Uncle; the Ypres, I went to wasn't the old spot that a long-winded General bored us with at one of the Saturday night lectures at School. I'm a a bit of a gunner myself; Sergeant in the National Reserve, and I'm certain that the cheery little town I've just left, couldn't be held for a fortnight. In the West, half the trenches would be knee-deep in water; if you built concrete breastworks they would sink in the mud. All the ground to the East and South is properly overlooked by a ridge. No man could have stuck a week of trench fighting in the winter round the place I was at.—Some other place, I assure you; not your Wipers." "All right, my boy; a night cap" and bed."

* * * * *

Or another picture; date and scene as before. what about Wipers?" "Sir, my revered and illustrious Grand-Uncle (Cheeky young devil!), I rise and salute you and Grandfather's stump.....and your quarter of a million dead comrades. No, but seriously, Sir, I've come back immensely impressed by the Salient and all that it meant and all that it proved of the quality of the men of your days. I'm a bit of a soldier myself and can realize what things were like; for I read up "The Three Battles" while I was there. One had heard of the place at lectures that old fellows used to give occasionally at school, but I had clean forgotten Wipers and the Salient till I asked someone about a belfry flying the Union Jack which I saw standing out on the Frezenberg Ridge. When I got there, a very civil, intelligent Johnnie (who, by the way, refused a tip, but touched me for half-a-dollar and rolled me in as a member of the 'Sons of the Ypres League') took me aloft, showed me through a glass all the big spots; Hill 60, Hooge, Chateau and all the rest of it; and left me for an hour or two to play with a big bronze map with pointers—so that I know how exactly where your battalion spent two disgusting winters up to your necks in mud—and where jolly old Grandfather left most of his legs. On the first floor the Johnnie showed me all the family names in the Original Register, and made me sign mine alongside in the column kept for the junior branch. Then, being a member, I was trotted off in a car to see Uncle Jim's grave and the exact, unhealthy spot near Polygon Wood where your trenches were in 1915 when you got your first blighty. Anyway, at last I've got a proper picture in my mind of what the Salient was then, and what it means for us to-day—got really in touch with the jolly old fight—and I'm immensely grateful to the fellows who took the trouble to mark all the sights and to publish maps, and to put up the Belfry."

"Yes, the 'Ypres League'; I had forgotten it and all its works. I remember joining it in the early days, 40 years ago: and as everyone who had fought in the salient or lost folk there, was eligible to join—and they number a full million—it cost me the price of two or three drinks. It was worth more to hear the boy talk to-night."

* * *

It is quite worth while to join the Ypres League, especially now when it is a new thing and has only twenty five thousand names on its books. There's no need to be alarmed at the big names on its papers: The King, The Prince, Lord French of Ypres, and a galaxy of Field Marshalls and Generals, some of whom work hard at it—for it is a genuine affair of fellowship between all ranks who fought in the Salient, and one of its Moving Spirits is from 'Other Ranks.'

If finances are normal with you, send 5/- to the Secretary at 23 Henrietta Street, W. He will send you quarterly for a year, the Ypres Times, written by all manner of first rate writers—and others: and when you have filled up a form of particulars, he will send you a Certificate worthy of framing, and let you have sundry badges, maps and advantages at Ypres, at cost price.

If times are difficult perhaps you can send 1/–, be enrolled, and get a certificate pending better times.

But if finances don't worry you, become a life member for £2 10s. 0d. and have done with it; and help the Council to make a speedy success of it, and get their work well and truly done at Ypres, by your suggestions; and if you will, volunteer to form a country branch.

BY 'TWO OLD MAJORS.'

Harrisonisms.

SEVERAL good tales could be told of No. 260 Pte. James Frost of "H" Company—a comical fellow if ever there was one. He stood out by himself in many ways. For one thing he must have had a wonderful memory, for he was renowned for his ability to state off-hand, the Regimental number of every man in the 1st Battalion, and he was very proud of it too. He was also one of those people who often had resource to a sick report when warned for duty to which he had an objection. "Guards" were his pet aversion, for he was seldom ready, disliked getting ready, and consequently "Waiting Guard" nearly always copped out, for he was an adept at swinging the lead, and getting round the doctor for a few day's light duty.

On one occasion when warned for guard, Jimmy went sick as usual. With a face as long as a fiddle, he paraded before the Medical Officer (a particularly cranky type) with his plausible excuses, and the following dialogue ensued. I can vouch for the authenticity of this yarn because I got it direct from the Hospital Sergeant who was present and heard it.

M.O.—Would you come to me with a trivial ailment like this if you were in civilian life?

Jimmy.—No, Sir, I don't think I would.

M.O.—What would you do then?

Jimmy.—I would go and see a Doctor!

M.O.—(furiously).—Duty!

And now Joey comes on again as C.O. dealing with Jimmy for (1) Reporting sick without a cause, and (2) Impudence to the Medical Officer.

Joey.—This is a very serious offence, etc., what have you got to say?

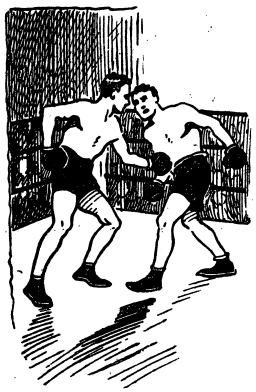
Jimmy.—Beg pardon, Sir, but, etc.

Joey.—Eight days C.B., at the same time impetuously digging at the Guard Report in his endeavour to write the figure 8. Jimmy here grasped the opportunity to "Beg pardon, Sir, will you see if it will write a 7?" amidst much suppressed laughter from the officers present, in which I fancy Joey must have participated, but apparently being overwhelmed with confusion at the prisoner's audacity, he blurted out "Admonished," so Jimmy saved his badge.

It may be necessary to explain that in those days eight day's C.B. was a Regimental Entry and carried with it the forfeiture of one G.C. Badge—7 day's C.B. was only a Company Entry.

A. H. B.

Boxing in the Services.



THE older followers of Boxing will realise that Boxing (more particularly civilian boxing) was reduced to a very low ebb about the year 1909. The continuous holding and clinching which was introduced by the Americans was slowly killing all interest and enthusiasm in this sport. This, the Army and Navy Boxing Association took in hand and though receiving little assistance from the Civilian Boxing World, succeeded in gradually eliminating all holding from Service Boxing, an example which Civilian Boxing ultimately followed.

NAVY AND ARMY CHAMPIONSHIPS.

The Navy and Army Championships were instituted as far back as 1892. At times the championships attained great heights, and under the supervision of Colonel Malcolm Fox, they produced a very high standard. Later on, however, the management was less efficient, and it was not until the formation in March, 1911 of the Navy and Army Boxing Association, of which His Majesty the King is patron, and to which every unit in both the Army and the Navy now belong, that Service boxing was placed on a proper footing. The objects of the Association were laid down as :—

(i.) To encourage and improve boxing in the Services, rather by inducing large numbers to enter for competitions than by specialising with individuals.

(ii.) To act as a central body for control and appeal.

AN AMERICAN IMPRESSION.

How boxing in the Services is regarded by our friends across the Herring Pond is best guaged by quoting from the writings of an American reporter who had witnessed the boxing at Cologne, run under the auspices of the Imperial Services Boxing Association. Here is what he says.

"Have you ever sat in a British boxing show? The business-like orderly and methodical arrangement in the handling of the bouts, and the spectators, is very interesting. It is true that the fiery outbursts of vocal enthusiasm, so characteristic of our American shows, are lacking, but the tense interest of the spectators is shown by the sharp intakings of breath whenever one of the contestants throws a hand full of knuckles into his opponent's features. The same set of seconds handle all contestants, with the same efficient care and only two are allowed each boxer. The referee stands outside the ring and orders the boxers to break when necessary. An American, used to seeing the third man tugging and hauling the fighters apart, naturally wonders what would happen if a fistic performer failed to obey a British referee. *But it never happens.*"

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR KENT.

In the Boxing notes issued by the Army Boxing Association appears the following :—

"There will probably be some fixtures for Army Teams after 'Xmas. Can anyone suggest good places to hold these matches? Aldershot is already rather over-loaded with Boxing Fixtures. If any Boxing Club, at, say, Dover, or Chatham, or any other suitable centre cares to offer to run an Army Fixture such as Army *versus* Metropolitan Police, the Army would share profits with the local club."

Some Results!

SOME few weeks ago Captain W. Stone who is in charge of Recruiting at The Depot called for suggestions for a Regimental Recruiting Poster. Considerable interest was aroused in this novel competition and amongst the entries received were the following :—

Work and Plenty for All.

Why be unemployed, when you can join "The Buffs," and enjoy the honours of a Glorious Regt. We are the foundation of the British Infantry, and the oldest Regt., having been formed in 1572.

Good prospects for a future career.

What a Surprise.

Customer.—Who's that swell over there in his car, Harry?

Barber.—Don't yer know, Why, he's an ex-Sergt. of the Buffs. Saved thousands when he was in it.

It's a glorious privilege to be able to say

"I'M A BRITISH CITIZEN"

It's a still more glorious one to be able to exclaim

"I'M A BUFF."

THE BUFFS

has been in existence for

350 Years,

which is one of the

350 Reasons

why the Buffs is the best Regiment to join.

From a Private.

I was unemployed and nearly destitute, but thanks to "The Buffs" I am now as fit as a fiddle, and have always got a few shillings in my pocket.

Join "The Buffs" in Thousands. Don't rely on your parents.

Recruits when choosing Regiments
frequently ask
"WHAT HAVE THEY DONE"?
JOIN THE BUFFS,
and then ask
"What HAVEN'T they done"?

Sucked In.

Road Sweeper.—Good afternoon Sir.

Passer By.—Don't Sir me, old man, I'm not used to it.

Road Sweeper.—Sorry, I thought you were Mr. Bigpocket, the Millionaire.

Passer By.—Lor' bless you, no, I'm living on my Army pension after I have served in "The Buffs."

The Territorials.

Smoker at Margate.

A MOST enjoyable smoker was held at the Drill Hall, Margate, on Friday, 2nd December, the object of which was a 'rouse up' in general, with a very successful result. We saw faces which still bore the marks of a very strenuous summer season, which same faces, we hope, will bear that 50/- look before they again desert us, so that Margate may still be magical next summer.

The Commanding Officer very kindly looked us up and after a brief speech, mixed in with the programme with "Gie I lots o' Pudd'n," but after a succession of roof-raising choruses the demand for "Pudd'n" was substituted by a real want, judging by the "heads backward be—end" going on all round.

It was an opportunity to welcome back our Company Commander, Capt. F. A. Brisley, who since those blissfull Shorncliffe days has been to South Africa, where he journeyed to make arrangements for next year's camp in case there isn't another strike in lieu thereof.

The programme included Mr. Harry Daw, Baritone, and Mr. Melbourn, Conjurer and Ventriloquist, and all items received a well deserved encore. The services of the artistes, who were civilians, were very much appreciated, which was signified by three hearty cheers before breaking up. Sgt.-Major Johnson and those who assisted him are to be congratulated upon the excellent arrangements.

Heartiest congratulations to Sergt.-Major P. Johnson (Margate Detachment) upon his promotion from Sergt. to Company Sergt.-Major of "A" Coy.

For Unemployed Territorials.

As the result of the whist drive and dance arranged by the Territorial Social Club, and held at the Drill Hall on December 14th, the gratifying sum of £20 5s. was raised towards assisting unemployed Territorials this Christmastide. Towards this sum the committee were indebted for the following subscriptions: Lt.-Col. Warrack £1 1s., Major J. H. Allen £1, Capt. H. G. James £1, Capt. F. Keeler £1, and Lieut. Swinford £1. The excellent catering on this occasion was carried out by Cpl. Burchell, assisted by the committee and their wives. The Social Club Committee heartily thank all who contributed their help and support towards the success of the evening.

The Sittingbourne Company.

We can officially state that there is no truth in the rumour that our instructor, C.S.M. Taylor, has joined the local "Allotment Holders' Association," and is growing spuds all over the Drill Hall, in spite of the fact that cart loads of earth have constantly been wheeled in, we learn that they are for the minature range only.

We are shortly going to nominate members to represent us in the next Brigade "Shove Half-penny Competition."

Sergt. Shepherd again took first prize this month in our monthly competition, this time at "Pills"; Pte. Watson and Cpl. Stafford finishing respectively 2 nil and 3 nil.

Things We Want to Know.

I. Whether the Ministry of Health have passed the plans of the Sittingbourne Territorial Housing Scheme.

II. Whether the contractors for "Shepherd Villas" and "Wood Cottage" have applied for the Government Building Grant.

[*We much regret the absence of any news from Dover and Folkestone, and hope that during* 1922 *we may be regularly supplied with this. Ed.*]

"C" Company—A Farewell.

As correspondent for "C" Company it is with great regret I send this my last message to your readers on behalf of the Officers, W.O., N.C.O.'s and men, which will henceforth be known as "C" (Weald of Kent Coy.) ,4th Battn. The Buffs. Its title will be changed but not its traditions; these I trust will be ever present in the memory of those who are inheritors of a great and glorious record. The unselfish heroism of those who are now only blank files in this old Company, should ever be a shining light to guide and encourage all ranks to live up to the high standard of courage, sacrifice and true comradeship which has been set them. Comradeship implies a great deal, for it should be the foundation of all efforts—it helps us under all circumstances and brings to one and all one of the greatest joys it is possible to have. It helps in all difficulties and brings pleasure into our hardest tasks. Up to the present 3 officers and 54 other ranks have signified their willingness to carry on with the 4th Battn. Our old Skipper, Capt. Cheesman will continue to command the Company, which will be reinforced by about 90 O.R. from the other Companies; and by the way it is a great pleasure to see how keen he is to do all he can for his Company to make it live up to its traditions which had been so well fostered by his late brother whose memory is still sweet with all old 5th Buffs. He will have the splendid help of Lieut. C. A. Winch as 2nd in Command of the Company, and Lieut. H. Alexander will command the Cranbrook Platoon. I am very pleased to place on record that nearly every member of the Company has made a voluntary subscription of 5/- to the Maidstone General Hospital as a farewell gift to record their appreciation of the great work done by the medical and nursing profession during the Great War. With a last good-bye and wishing you Mr. Editor and all your readers the best of luck.

I sign myself for the last time,

"C" Company, 5th Buffs Correspondent.

"D" Company Notes.

As these notes are written the work for the year is over. Drills and Musketry are completed. Before this appears everyone will have got his pay and bounty. And the supper of the new Weald Company will have taken place.

We of "D" Coy., now no more, but part of the "C" The Weald Coy., have no cause to be ashamed of our efforts of the past year. A year ago we were not more than 10 strong. Our maximum strength has been 111, and we have actually transferred to the amalgamated Battn. no less than 95.

Time has been so much taken up with recruiting that the work of the past season has suffered somewhat in interest. Then the Defence Force came at the most important time of the year, and claimed many of us for three months. There was no camp in consequence, and Musketry had to be rushed at the end.

In 1922, in the individuality of Platoons, we feel sure training will be far more interesting, particularly as all become more efficient. For information it may be stated the Weald Coy. will be organised as follows:—

No. 9 Platoon—Cranbrook.
10 ,, Benenden, Hawkhurst, Staplehurst, Sutton-Valence and Tenterden.
11 ,, Goudhurst and Horsmonden.
12 ,, Collier Street and Yalding,

The late Coy. Commander wishes to take this opportunity of thanking all ranks for their loyal co-operation. As Second in Command he hopes to see just as much of everyone in the coming year.

A Happy New Year to you all.

Our Annual Supper.

The supper of the Weald Detachment took place at the George Hotel, Cranbrook, on Saturday, December 17th. It was a notable success. The Hall was crowded, but there was just room for the party of fully 160 officers and other ranks who sat down to the excellent English Christmas fare provided. After this had been disposed of there were a few toasts. Colonel Body proposed the Weald Detachment, and in a stirring speech referred to the splendid men of the Weald it had been his good fortune to command in the war. Major Burns responded, and proposed Colonel Body's health, and spoke of the great regret it was to them all to lose their Commanding Officer. The rest of the evening was devoted to an enjoyable programme of music. Mr. Owler's comic songs and stories were greatly appreciated, as was the fine singing of Capt. Braunn, late of the 5th Battn., whose magnificent voice seems even to have improved since he delighted us in the old days in India.

Capt. Cheesman, and Lieuts. Winch and Alexander are to be congratulated on the admirable arrangements they made for the whole show. Altogether a great evening, and a happy send-off to the new Detachment.

Don't forget that if you have anything to sell, or if there is anything you want to buy, we will be glad to meet your requirements in The Dragon free of all charge.

We have still some complete sets of the 1921 *Dragons for disposal. If you would like one of these drop us a line.* (*For full particulars see page 23.*)

Lieut.-Colonel J. Body, D.S.O., O.B.E., T.D.

AN APPRECIATION.

THE amalgamation of the 4th and 5th Battalions became an accomplished fact on January 1st. The old 5th Battalion ceases to exist as a separate unit, and its future lies before it as "C", The Weald Coy., 4th Battn. The Buffs. Naturally its members regret the passing of their old Battalion. No one, I know, feels this more than their Colonel.

Never, surely, was a man more fitted for a soldier and a leader of men than John Body, Yet until 1914, though for many years he had been a keen volunteer and Territorial Officer, his life was spent on his farm at Wittersham in the quiet Isle of Oxney.

With the war Colonel Body, then a Company Commander, came into his own. The Battalion left for India in October, 1914. At the last moment we were deprived of our Adjutant, Captain Henry Hardy, and Body was appointed Adjutant. It was a fortunate choice. He, I think, would be the first to admit the great reputation gained by the 5th was due, in a great measure, to the careful training it received at Kamptee in India before it went on service; though possibly, he may not admit this was due to his untiring work and enthusiasm.

No one could have taken more interest in his men than he did, and he was loved wholeheartedly. He had lived among them all his life, as his forefathers had lived among theirs. He knew their wonderful qualities and, above all, he knew the secret of bringing the best out of them. I have often heard him say—"There weren't any better men."

Soon after the early operations to relieve Kut, in which the Battalion fought and lost so heavily in officers and men, Body found himself in command. This is not the occasion for a detailed account of war service—the War History of the Buffs will contain that—it is enough to say that throughout that hard compaign on the Tigris the Battalion and its Commander covered themselves with honour. They were the first to enter Bagdad, and hoisted the Union Jack on the Citadel, which event, perhaps, impressed the world, and certainly the Eastern world, scarcely less than the capture of Jerusalem.

On his return with the cadre to England in 1919, Colonel Body threw himself heart and soul into re-forming the Territorial Battalion. Progress was slow at first, but last summer, when his work was just bearing fruit, it was ordained that only one Territorial Battalion of the Buffs should remain. He subordinated his personal feelings entirely to forming an efficient new Battalion. He did not quibble over a name—4th or 5th was all one so long as it was Buffs. The result is the almagamation has taken place without trouble or friction, and he has the satisfaction of seeing nine of his Officers and 150 Other Ranks absorbed into the new Unit, forming a splendid Company.

We shall always miss him, but it is pleasant to know he still takes the same interest in the Weald Detachment.

Ave atque Vale!

Tenterden in Kent.

(With acknowledgement to Country Life.)

LONG years ago when Time was Space,
And people thought it no disgrace
To travel fifteen miles a day
In a calm and quiet way.

At Tenterden there lived a man,
A Man of Kent was he,
He looked across the Weald of Kent
To the Town of Winchelsea.

He said, "I'll ride to Winchelsea,
To Winchelsea near Rye,
I'll find a wife in Winchelsea,
Or any way, I'll try!"

And all the girls at Tenterden,
At Tenterden in Kent,
They tried to climb the Steeple,
To see the way he went.

They saw him from the Steeple,
They saw him riding by,
To fetch a wife from Winchelsea,
From Winchelsea or Rye.

He met a maid at Rolvenden,
At Rolvenden in Kent,
She really was a pretty maid,
She asked him where he went.

He said, "I'm off to Winchelsea,
To see them all go by,
All the girls from Winchelsea,
And all the girls from Rye."

"And do you think," she shyly said
"They'll be as nice as I?
All these girls from Winchelsea,
And all these girls from Rye?"

He kissed the maid from Rolvenden,
He kissed her all the way,
He took her back to Tenterden,
I've heard Grandfather say.

He took her back to Tenterden,
To Tenterden in Kent,
They did not ride the shortest way,
But anyway, they went.

He never left the Kentish Weald
To see them all go by,
All the girls from Winchelsea,
And all the girls from Rye.

JAMES TURKE.

The Sportsman.

Essentials of a Good Referee.

IN view of the all-important part played by the referee in all sporting contests, a study of the essentials which go o make a good referee is of all importance.

Now what exactly are these essentials? The first and most important must undoubtedly is a thorogh knowledge of the rules. The second is the ability coupled with determinatio 1 and firmness of being able to put these into practice, and the third is the vital factor of temperament. An even temperament in fact is a *sine qua non*. If a whistle holder is inclined to get excited and lose his head over really trivial incidents then he will never rise above the crowd at the bottom of the ladder. He may know the rules of the game inside out and have all the other qualifications that go to make a great official, but if he cannot control his own excitability he will never reach the summit.

Then we come to firmness. Unless a referee is firm, all kinds of incidents will crop up. As soon as a set of players discover that the official in charge is inclined to be lax they will mould their play accordingly.

RESPONSIBILITY.

The referee is the one man above all who can make or mar a game. He can keep the standard of the play high by capably controlling the game or he can allow it to degenerate into a sorry spectacle through his own inability. If any of the readers of this article wish to take up the profession of refereeing they should keep these essentials before them.

Reverting to the question of a thorough knowledge of the rules, below will be found a list of twelve questions issued as a specimen examination paper for potential Asssociation football referees by the Army Referees Association, the working out of which will perhaps be found both interesting and useful.

THE TWELVE QUESTIONS.

1. What is a Place Kick? Explain in detail how it is taken.
2. (*a*) Explain the difference in Free Kicks.
   (*b*) How should Free Kicks be taken?
3. (*a*) State all the offences for which a Penalty Kick should be given.
   (*b*) Explain how a Penalty Kick is taken.
4. State all the advantages a Goal-keeper has over other players.
5. Explain fully the meaning of Law 6, (Off-side).
6. (*a*) What is Tripping?
   (*b*) Under what circumstances may a player be charged from behind?
7. The Referee being satisfied that an intentional offence has been commited can he refrain from penalising the offender? Why?
8. (*a*) What is violent conduct? How would you deal with it?
   (*b*) What is ungentlemanly conduct? How would you deal with it?
9. Havng sent a player off the field, what is your duty?
10. What are the duties of a Referee, and what uses would you make of
    (*a*) Neutral Linesmen?
    (*b*) Club Linesmen?
11. State fully when a goal is scored.
12. Draw a plan of the field of play on last page of Examination paper, giving the measurements and showing the markings; only one end and centre of field need be shown.

Having published the above, we should like to say in conclusion that we should welcome suggestions for further examination papers in any sport or game, or queries relating to any incident in regard to which a decision presents a difficulty.

Hints for Athletes.

FOLLOWING up the articles in our November and December issues dealing with the question of training for cross-country running and Athletics generally, we now give a few general hints which we hope will prove useful.

WHEN TO PASS A MAN.

All tracks are circular and are usually 440 yards long, with two straights and two semi-circles. In all races over 220 yards which are run on the circular track, untaped, it must be realized that no attempt should be made to pass another runner on the bend. It is obvious that if the leading runner is running along close to the line, any attempt to "round him will necessitate the covering of extra ground, and the effort required by the leader to maintain his lead on the inside of the circle will be far less than that required by the man behind in attempting to get ahead of him by going round him. It must also be remembered that before a runner can get in front of a man who is leading him, he must be two clear yards ahead. The effort must, therefore, be kept to the straight—where both men will be running on level terms.

When to take the lead depends on many factors—the length of the race, the speed of travel, the capacity of the runners; and can only be found out by experience. But the point to emphasize here is that should a runner find himself behind on reaching the bend, he should make no attempt to get ahead while on the bend, conserving all his energies to the effort to do so on reaching the straight. Again if the runner is leading he should utilize the bends for easing up—a very little of course—in order to conserve that fraction of energy which he will require on the straight to maintain his lead.

Cutting inside a leader is barred, unless there is a gap of two yards between the leader and the line. In the case of a race of 440 yards an effort should be made from the start to get first or second place on the bend and so in case of a large number of runners avoid being crowded up.

WHEN TO MAKE YOUR EFFORT.

This depends of course on the length of the race, but generally speaking the effort should be made when approximately two-thirds of the race has been run. In the case of the quarter, the effort should be made primarily at the start—to gain position at the first bend, then up the far straight to maintain position or gain further position, and finally up the finishing straight, where every ounce of energy must come in to bring the runner to the finish.

In longer races the maxim quoted above will be found useful. The runner's stride and speed will give him an idea of his probable position before a lap has been completed. In a half-mile he should begin to increase at the start of the last quarter, and run the last quarter as for an ordinary quarter alone. In a mile race the speed should be increased at the third lap gradually with every attempt being made to gain the lead up to the last far straight, since the lead obtained here will seldom be lost in the final bend and home straight. The same will apply in races over a mile. (*To be continued next month*).

The British Empire.

PREVIOUS to the test of the Great War this Island Kingdom had many times fought for life with other powers and had victoriously survived terrible struggles with Spain, Holland and France. Indeed the last mighty contest of one hundred years ago with the latter power directed by the genius of Napoleon brought our Country nearer to disaster than it was at any time during the last War.

This is not to be wondered at when we take a glance at the conditions which then existed. The population of this country was somewhere about 12 millions excluding the six millions of Ireland, which in spite of the many splendid regiments she sent us, was, during the whole long struggle, a cause of considerable anxiety. But passing over this, and counting in the whole population of these Islands, the total would not amount to more than 18 millions.

On the other side stood Napoleon the greatest military genius of all time. Under him were the thirty millions of France, Belgium, Holland, Italy, a large part of Germany ; and almost under his orders were Prussia, Austria and Russia, whilst at one time Spain and Portugal also were occupied by his armies.

Our future as a nation hung on a hair. Supposing Napoleon had concentrated the whole of his thought on naval power and naval combination, it seems scarcely possible (humanly speaking) that we could have resisted. Nelson one must remember never had a free hand until the very end, the genius of Cochrane was wasted by the government of the day and, as usual, politics, place hunting, etc., took the place of what in every nation on earth ought to be the first consideration viz., the preparation in peace time for instant vigorous war on sea and land with the whole resources of the People against any nation or nations that attacked them.

To call such insurance measures, militarism is imbecile. The right name is common sense. No one can read the history of that long and terrible struggle without dismay and the feeling that we won through as by miracle. There were many resemblances too between that test and this recent one. But in the last hundred years the Island Kingdom had become the British Empire.

Instead of a population of 18 millions, one of 46 millions rose to meet the would be successor of Napoleon. Australia, Canada, India, South Africa, sent armies and supplied resources greater than Great Britain was able to send in the war with Napoleon. The great hope of the Kaiser was that the Empire would promptly break up under the strain of the War and perhaps the most abominable and cowardly of his many crimes against his own people, is that he persisted in the struggle in order to save his own skin, his crown and his money. When he did at last realise the awful power of the Empire which from Pole to Pole closed in upon him, which crushed him steadily out of the Pacific, the Atlantic, out of Africa, Mesopotamia, and Palestine and which holding the seas, the cables, the islands, the coasts drew an ever tightening ring round his doomed forces.

Without the Empire, without the wealth which the making the empire brought, without the vast forces which the nations of the empire sent to the battlefields all over the world, what could a nation such as we were a hundred years ago have done to avert the frightful disaster of a German victory, to save France and Italy, Belgium, Denmark, Holland, and Poland and to prevent this country from becoming a miserable enslaved province of the German Empire.

The British Empire has deserved well of the world. It means to us life and the power to do almost infinite good. If we lose it through folly, selfishness or sloth, it will go hard with us and with our children. If we live up to our responsibilities our country has every prospect of long continued happiness and prosperity.

MOHUN ASHFORDBY-TRENCHARD.

A Tragedy of 1871.

(A Reminiscence by J. Bennell, late Sgt.-Major The Buffs).

IT was in January, 1871, when I, with seventy-six others joined the 1st Battalion at Sitapur, a small station 50 miles from Lucknow.

At that time our connection with Kent, or Canterbury was purely nominal. A large percentage of the rank and file were Irish. I daresay we had men from every county in Ireland, but the majority were from the southern and western provinces. We had a fair number of Ulster men too, and, both from north and south, were fine fine soldiers. Also great at athletics and " fives," their national game. But they were given to drinking freely, and this often resulted in serious crime.

As an instance of this, shortly after I joined the Battalion I was one night on piquet; a Lance-Corporal, who had come out at the same time as myself, being in charge of my patrol. On our dismissal soon after midnight by the Provost Sergeant, the Corporal and I started for our quarters together. It was one of those beautiful nights, common in Bengal when you can read a book by the moon, and so still that, that the Chowkedars could be heard calling to each other a mile or two away.

When I got to my bungalow I bade the Corporal good night, entered my room when, in the midst of taking off my boots, a report rang out which shook the doors and windows of the building. The room was lighted by small oil lamps, and I saw some of the men move in their sleep, but took no further notice. Suddenly another report rang out. Then I roused the men who began to dress preparatory to ascertaining what this firing meant.

We went out to the verandah, and about fifty yards away, we could see a white object on the ground. There was some hesitation about going out to this object as two shots had been fired, and one could not tell who was lying near ready to fire again as opportunity offered. This kind of thing was common in India at the time, and for years after. So our hesitation, or caution can be understood. However two or three went out and one shouted " Its Corpl. Baxter " the Corpl., I had parted with a few minutes before. He was quite dead, a Snider bullet having gone through his heart. On going round a wash-house close by the second shot was accounted for. A man named Mick Burns lay dead slain by his own hand.

On enquiry it transpired that Burns had intended to shoot the Provost Sergt. whom he expected to return that way which was his usual route, after dismissing the piquets. Poor Baxter was a London lad 20 years of age.

Now these cases were common in India in the " seventies." Discipline or what went by that name was severe and often brutal in practice. Between this, bad liquor and the climate it needed a level head to keep straight. These cases of shooting used to come about in this way. A man would fancy, or most likely knew that a certain N.C.O. was " down upon him " and intended to injure him, or had done so. The man returns to his room more or less under the influence of liquor of some sort, his rifle is at the head of his cot and 20 rounds of ball in his pouch. What could be more handy to a man half in the " Rats." The sight of means to do ill deeds make ill deeds done. But now happily all the above has been changed, thanks being due mainly to that kindly humane officer the late Lord Roberts.

If you want to get into touch with an old comrade, send us full particulars and we will do our best to help you.

Short articles, sketches, and drawings are always acceptable for the Dragon.

Thomas Atkins.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "TOM BUCKLEY OF TISSINGTON," ETC.

[*The following is taken from a series of articles under this heading which appeared in the* 1887 *Dragon.*]

IN every Company there are certain to be some public characters. The "handy man," the "swag" and the lawyer are generally the three. The "handy-man," is he who can build a rabbit-hutch, or dog-kennel out of nothing (Tommy is fond of pets), cut hair, splice a bat, make a draught board out of—to use an unavoidable figure catachresis—scraps of coloured cloth, make a bird-cage out of an old tin canteen, in short, of he were to give his mind to it, I am not certain that he could not falsify the proverb on the impossibility of making a purse out of a sow's ear. That he will ever bring his ingenious mind to bear on the attempt is improbable, for Tommy is fond of pets, but not much use for purses. The "wag" must be able to sing a song, tell a good story, be possessed of "cheek" and a rough and-ready sort of wit, and have a plentiful stock of good humour or he will soon be deposed. The "lawyer" is the man who always has a complaint to make to his Officer, who always disputes his accounts, who always thinks he is being put upon.

The handy man comes out strong in the field, under canvas, on board ship, and on all occasions of difficulty; the wag shines on the march, in the barrack room, in the canteen; and the lawyer has a chance of distinguishing himself at the half-yearly inspection, when the inspecting general asks the whole regiment whether any man has a complaint to make. Now is the lawyer's time. He steps forward, the mark of all eyes and enters into a long rigmarole whine. In nine cases out of ten the case is frivolous and groundless, for there are very few commanding officers in the service who would not strain every nerve to redress a man's grievance if he has one. The inspecting general, however, will always listen to the lawyer's story and before he leaves the barracks will investigate it from beginning to end, as if the fate of the nation depended on the result.

Suggestion.

[*In a recent lecture before a learned Society a doctor stated that a blister had been raised by suggestion.—Vide Daily Press.*]

DEAR Nancy, mine, the puzzle's solved,
Too long on life you've frowned,
Suggestion raises blisters so,
Do you suggest all round.

If grocer Brown should send you bills
Demanding they be paid,
Do you put on your sternest look—
Suggest "Bill Brown" and "Paid."

If little Nance should worry you
With noisy, dancing feet,
Pick up my old red slipper, dear,
Suggest a leathered seat.

And if the strife of years should bring
A rift within the lute,
We'll both suggest the old dear self—
Give t'other one the boot.

H.

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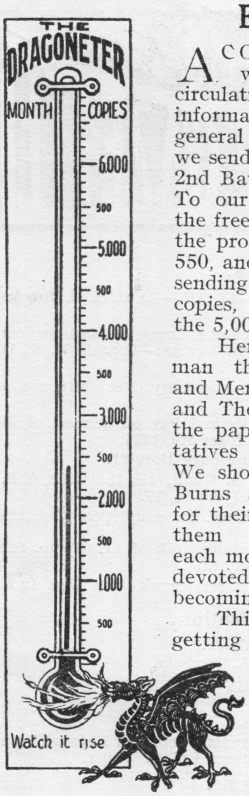

Enquiry Bureau.

A CORRESPONDENT having written in to ask how our circulation is going, the following information is given as a matter of general interest. To the 1st Battalion we send 550 copies each month, to the 2nd Battalion 640, to The Depot 200, To our subscribers and to those on the free lists (other regimental papers, the provincial press, advertisers, etc.) 550, and to our representatives we are sending for disposal some further 450 copies, making 2,400 in all towards the 5,000 mark we are aiming for.

Here we should like to thank to a man the Officers, W.O.'s N.C.O.'s and Men of the 1st and 2nd Battalions and The Depot for the support given the paper, and also all our representatives for the help they are giving. We should also like to thank Major Burns and his men in The Weald for their interest in the paper. From them we receive news regularly each month, and many of them have devoted a portion of their bounty to becoming regular subscribers.

This year we look forward to getting more Territorial news from Margate, Dover, and Folkestone, etc., as we feel sure that this would lead to a wider circulation of the paper amongst the 4th Battalion who naturally expect to find as much space devoted to their doings as is given their Sister Buff units. On another page will be found an advertisement designed by the versatile O. Mason, much of whose excellent work appears in *The Dragon* each month, throwing out a suggestion to our readers to pull in others. We can only say that any response to the suggestion made will be heartily received. With a full apology for taking up so much space about ourselves we now turn to other matters.

SOME QUERIES ANSWERED.

H.S. (Dover):—Most certainly you, as should *all* officers and other ranks take advantage of the privilege of being registered as Parliamentary electors. This privilege is granted to British subjects in the Army provided that they are 21 years of age on the last day of the qualifying period for each register, or—if under 21—that they served in the Great War after reaching the age of 19.

As a rule, the place for which an officer or soldier is qualified to be registered is the place where his home is, or would be, if he had not joined the Forces. Those who are already registered are not required at present to submit fresh application, but ex-soldiers who re-enlist must, in future, take the necessary steps to be placed on the register.

Major J. Crookenden, D.S.O., commanding the Depot, writes that that he has some half-dozen lantern slides 3¼-in. square of scenes of the Battalion in the South African War. These Major Crookenden will be glad to present to any reader of *The Dragon* who would care to have them.

H. J. (Kensington):—*The Dragon* was first founded by the 1st Battalion in Calcutta on the 15th September, 1874, but the oldest bound copy of which we have knowledge is that of 1886, now in the Officers' Mess of the 1st Battalion. We shall enlarge on this information in our February issue.

A. S. (Fermoy):—The Battle of Punmar was fought on December 29th, 1843. In this engagement the 1st Battalion formed part of a comparatively small force which gained a complete victory over an enemy numbering 12,000 and occupying a strong position. The British casualties were 215 killed and wounded.

A. G. L.:—The conditions of pension attached to the D.C.M. are as follows: If a soldier is discharged to pension 6d. per diem is added. Should he be discharged or transferred to the Reserve, he receives a gratuity of £20.

Officers.

The following temp. appt. is made :—Cl. HH.—Lt. C. H. M. Brooke, The Buffs (Aug. 7th).

The undermentioned Officer qualified at a Course at Machine Gun. School, Hythe, in Light Gun and Light Mortar :—Captain E. F. D. Strettell, Depot The Buffs.

Capt. J. B. Sharp retires, receiving a gratuity (Dec. 3rd), and is granted rank of Major.

Lieut. H. G. Redhead retires on Retired Pay on account of ill-health contracted on Active Service, October 5th, 1921.

Lieut. T. Reid, M.C. joined 1st Bn. for duty 21/10/21.

G.S.O., 2ND GRADE.—Bt. Maj. L. B. Grant, 4th the Buffs, T.F., and relinquishes the temp. rank of Maj. (July 14, 1920).

The following relinquish their commns. on completion of service (Sept. 1st) :—

Temp. Lt. H. A. J. Froome, and retains rank of Lt.; Temp. Sec. Lt. P. H. Young, and retains rank of Sec. Lt.

Lieut. G. E. Sankey is seconded for service with the West India Regiment, 26/9/21.

The 1st Battalion.

APPOINTMENT.

Appointed A/C.S.M., 6279546 Sgt. A. Goodwin.

TRANSFER TO ARMY RESERVE.

6278437 Pte. L. Hogben.

COURSES.

Passed 2nd Class at Assistant Instructors' Course of Physical Training at Aldershot, 25/8/21 :—Cpl. F. Turner, Cpl. G. Waller.

DISCHARGES.

680029 Pte. J. Wright, 6278529 Bdm. F. Butler, 6279991 L/C. W. Mabey.

APPOINTMENTS.

Acting Unpaid Lance Corporals, 21/11/21 :—6279239 Pte. Riddles, 6279343 Pte. M. McCarthy, 6279321 Pte. H. Errington, 6279996 Pte. W. James, 6280066 Pte. W. Sullivan, 6279322 Pte. R. Wickham.

PROMOTIONS.

Corporals, 4/11/21 :—A/Cpl. J. Sharp (D), A/Cpl. W. Hadaway (A), L/C. H. West (A), L/C. C. Vant (B), L/C. F. Turner (A), L/C. H. Gomm (B), L/C. G. Waller (B).

Acting Corporals, 4/11/21 :—L/C. F. Marsh (D), L/C. H. Leekes (D) L/C. S. Hubbard (A), L/C. G. Brophy (C), L/C. W. Willing (A), 6278283 L/C H Osborne.

DECREASE.

Posted to Depot, 18/11/21 :—6279149 L/Sgt. A. Amos.

The Depot.

APPOINTMENTS.

Paid Lance-Sergeant :—6279149 Cpl. A. Amos.

EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.

Awarded Third Class Certificates of Education, 24/10/21 :—6281387 Pte. A. Aylward, 6281236 Pte. J. Bowman, 6281289 Pte. A. Barrell, 6281337 Pte. E. Scott, 733686 Pte. F. Ovenden, 7337079 Pte. R. Turner, 731753 Pte. C. Newell, 6281135 Pte. F. Gausby, 6281149 Pte. L. Crouch, 6281170 Pte. G. Hunt, 6281152 Pte. W. Peck, 6281231 Pte. J. Hills, 6281172 Pte. Followell, 732500 Pte. F. Wead, 6281131 Pte. L. Robbins, 6281124 Pte. L. Burt, 6281129 Pte. H. Barden, 6281175 Pte. F. Turner, 6281176 Pte. W. Findlay, 6279643 Pte. T. Busby.

DECREASE.

Posted to the 1st Battalion The Buffs, 22/11/21 :—6278102 C.S.M. Bones, M.M., 7808460 C.S.M. Knight, M.M., 7337079 Pte. Turner, 731753 Pte. Newell, 6281170 Pte. Hunt, 6768331 Pte. Channell, 723435 Pte. Matthews, 6281183 Pte. Mowland, 6281237 Pte. Peck, 5609130 Pte. Foord, 6281231 Pte. Hills, 6278245 Pte. Finn, 6281172 Pte. Followell, 732500 Pte. Wead, 6281175 Pte. Turner, 6281176 Pte. Findlay, 6281123 Pte. Mummery, 6280551 Pte. Bronfield, 6281182 Pte. Walker, 6281136 Pte. Langston, 6281095 Pte. Baton, 6281134 Pte. Baker, 6281165 Pte. Inkloy, 6279643 Pte. Busby, 6281362 Pte. Akhurst, 6281129 Pte. Barden, 6278114 Pte. Waghorn, 6281425 Boy Apps.

Posted to 1st Battalion, 30/12/21 :—7812146 A/Cpl. H. McLean, 6280271 Pte. E. Butler, 6280154 Pte. C. Minns.

DISCHARGES.

6281177 Pte. E. Care, 534333 Pte. G. Martin, 6279247 Pte. G. Cross, 6281375 Pte. J. Scott, 6446595 Pte. F. Skinner, 1663683 Pte. Setterfield.

ARRIVALS.

Joined Depot from 1st Battalion, 19/11/21 :—6279149 L/S. A. Amos.

Arrived from overseas and joined Depot, 18/11//21 :—6280149 Sgt. H. Stace (detail 2nd Bn.)

From 1st Battalion, 3/12/21, 6280183 Pte. F. Jendin.

From 1st Battalion, 7/12/21 :—6280340 A/C. J. Flood.

RECRUITS.

Pte. J. McKenna, Pte. F. G. Johnson, Pte. N. Shardlow, Pte. A. G. Gates, Pte. J. A. Rook, Pte. F. Cooper, Pte. G. E. Hunt, Pte. J. Ashby, Boy W. Cummings (Attested for 2nd Battalion), Pte. E. T. Ellen, Boy S. Ashton (Attested for 2nd Battalion), Boy J. Gooling, (Attested for 2nd Battalion), Pte. G. Foreman.

RE-ENLISTMENT.

Pte. V. G. Harnden (late 6280863 4th Buffs).

Some Pedigree.

[*Editor's Note :—The following incident has just actually occurred at the Depot*].

Scene :—*Recruits' Lecture Room. Recruits on parade being catechised by Sergeant Major.*

Sergt.-Major :—(Describing places of interest passed on a journey from the 1st Battalion, Fermoy, to 2nd Battalion, Mesopotamia).

"Next we reach the Red Sea. Now you have all read in the Bible about the Red Sea, the waters of which divided to allow certain people to pass through it. Tell me, Jones, who were those people that were by this miracle enabled to pass through the Red Sea on foot. Jones :—"The Buffs, Sir!" (*Curtain*)

To Past and Present Buffs.

THE Association of Past and Present Buffs is open to all those who are serving or have served in a Regular Battalion of the Buffs, and to all those who have served or are serving with a Service, Territorial, or Special Reserve Battalion.

If you are not already a member, why not become one now?

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All correspondence to The Hon. Sec., the Association of Past and Present Buffs, Depot The Buffs, Canterbury.

This may Interest You.

Should your motor car, or motor bicycle, not be giving you every satisfaction, Mr. Elvidge of Wincheap Garage, Canterbury, will be glad to advise you, and to have executed promptly and moderately, and under his own personal supervision, any repairs or overhauling that may be necessary.

* * * *

Mr. Elvidge has also pleasure in announcing that he has been appointed local Agent for the "Light Six Studebaker" upon which trial runs can be given at any time. And further that he is able to supply any make of car, or motor bicycle, and all accessories.

* * * *

Mention of The Dragon is invited by those who respond to this announcement.

A New Year Resolution.

Place your custom with the firms whose names you find in the pages of The Dragon.

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No. 267. February, 1922. Price Sixpence.

Personalia.

WE would once again ask our correspondents to remember, that the 14th of each month is the closing date *in our office* for the receipt of copy for the following month's issue. This may seem very early, but the following points have to be remembered. It takes some days to set up *The Dragon* with its 32 pages and cover. In addition, all proofs have to be read both by the printers and ourselves. After which the pages have to be paged up, firstly in our office from the proofs received in galley form, and then by the printers in the printing frames. Then follows the passing of the page proofs, after which comes the locking up of the complete paper in the printing press.

And this is by no means all. The cover has to be printed separately, as has also each of the sixteen pages of the contents; after all of which follows the actual printing, binding, delivery and despatch. Then another important point, of course, is that until we can see exactly how much space the Regimental News is likely to make we are in difficulties as to how much additional copy we must send to the printers to complete the paper. We feel sure we only have to mention these points for our correspondents, whose help is so much appreciated, to remember the 14th in the future.

We extend a hearty welcome to the 1st Battalion on their arrival in England. Near neighbours, as we now are, we look forward like all others to renewing in person, many old friendships, and to the making of many others.

And to the 2nd Battalion, to whom we are sending *The Dragon* to Aden at last, we extend every good wish, and the very best of good times in their new surroundings.

Continuing our record of Buffs who either are, or have been members of the Naval and Military Club, we now hear from Major C. Hood that he is still a member, whilst Col. G. V. Dauglish and Major Crookenden were one time members. And those who have recently been elected members, are Major E. F. Gould, Captains H. H. C. Baird, and A. B. Thomson, and Lieuts. N. G. Wate, D. C. Coates and J. M. Pritchard.

Major Hood by the way tells us he is about to become District Commissioner of the Boy Scouts in Coventry.

We are again indebted to Lt.-Col. Sparrow for sending us some further old press cuttings relating to the Regiment, this time dealing with the doings of the 2nd Battalion in The South African War. He also sends us a copy of the Souvenir of the Royal Irish Military Tournament in 1895, at which a Grand Historical Military Pageant was presented by the Regiment.

Records of this kind are a valuable possession to us and The Regiment, and we would welcome anything of a similar kind that any of our readers may be able to spare; or, indeed, news of any regimental relics of which there must be a very large number throughout the County. Shortly, it is reasonable to expect that the History of the Regiment will be brought up to date, and every possible information about the Regiment will then be invaluable. Besides, what about the exhibition of old Regimental relics suggested by Major Tomlinson?

We hear from L/Cpl. Briston the very able correspondent of C Company and the Corporals' Mess of the 2nd Battalion that he is about to return to civil life. The best of luck to him, and our best thanks for the valuable assistance he has rendered the paper. We hope he will continue to keep in touch with us.

We have to thank the King's Royal Rifle Corps for sending us a copy of their Chronicle for 1920. In this the full record for the year of each of their Battalions, of their Records Office, their Depot, their Benevolent work, their Veterans Association, and their sport is recorded, whilst in addition is to be found a number of most excellent articles. We heartily endorse the opinion of this work as expressed by the *Pall Mall Gazette* which is as follows:—"An admirable example of Military History at its best."

Major George Porter is very kindly sending us a photograph of the officers of the 2nd Battalion taken in Singapore in 1885. This welcome gift has decided us to start up a picture gallery in *The Dragon* Office. The above, and reproductions of our Regimental Notabilities published up to date, are as far as we have got at present, but with 2,500 readers of *The Dragon* we are not without hope for the future!

Another old veteran from whom we have heard is Mr. G. H. Mills (late No. 37) now living at Chatham. In his letter telling us how much he enjoyed seeing *The Dragon* again, he recalls his service under Captain Jackson, and Colonels Morley and Blaksley.

We are sorry to hear that the Economy axe has hit both Mr. T. Groombridge, late R.S.M., and Mr. Coppinge, late C Sgt. who have both been discharged from the Cavalry Records on reduction of the staff. We can only hope that vacancies elsewhere may present themselves.

Personalia—*continued.*

We regret our mistake last month in referring to Mr. G. W. Brown as the late Congy Brown of the 2nd Battalion, Mr. G. W. Brown, is, of course, the late Col.-Sergt. of the 1st Battalion, and one time sub-editor of *The Dragon*. And he will also be remembered as Hon. Sec. of the 1st Battalion branch of the R.A.T.A. He is now employed at The War Office in a permanent job, unless, as he puts it in his letter to us " Washington does away with armies."

Sergt. F. P. Gibbs, one time an officer with the 2nd Battalion, writes us a cheery letter from Mosul. He is now serving with the Army Educational Corps, having re-enlisted after demobilization thereby being able, as he himself puts it, " to lead the live he loves."

We much regret having to record the death from Malaria Fever in India of Sgt. W. Weeks of the Tank Corps and late The Buffs. To the father, himself an old Buff, and Mrs. Weeks we extend our deepest sympathy in the loss of their second son, as it will be remembered that their eldest boy was killed in France when serving with the 2nd Battalion.

Mr. G. Murray, late G Company 2nd Battalion, who has been out of work for some time has been given temporary employment at the Depot. Those who were in G Company at Mallapuram will remember his famous " Paper Boy's Song." Now a " Lame Dog " he is willing to take on work of any kind and we hope one or other of our readers may be able to help him.

Mr. C. C. Worters, of the 4th Battalion is now with the Agricultural Department of the Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

His old friends of the 8th Buffs will be interested to hear that Mr. Baller (late 12581 Pte.) is working at the Savoy Hotel in the Strand.

Our readers will be glad to hear that, after many weeks in bed, Mrs. Hickson is at last able to get about again; they are living at 157 Ashley Gardens, S.W. We are also glad to hear that Mrs. Ravenhill is very much better, and that Mrs. Baird is gradually making headway after her recent attack of pleurisy and pneumonia.

Mr. L. Barton (late 7978 Pte.) who served some years in the 2nd Battalion in Harrismith and Dover, and was wounded in the knee in the Great War, has had a great deal of trouble with it lately; he has developed phlebitis and this has necessitated his giving up an extremely well paid job. He is living at Balham.

Colonel and Mrs. Hulke have been for some time at Walmer; we are sorry to learn that Colonel Hulke still suffers a great deal from his eyes.

Mr. Wm. Alldridge, late Post Corporal at the Depot, who was recently discharged owing to defective sight, has passed the tests necessary to become a clerk in the R.A.O. Corps and hopes to re-enlist shortly.

Major J. B. Sharp and Captain S. Maiden are both exchanging the sword for the birch, and when this issue appears will have already entered on their careers as schoolmasters. We wish them both all success.

We have heard from one of the men who was with Cotter when he won his Victoria Cross, Mr. P. H. Sullivan (late 7868 Pte.) who is living at the Harrow Road, Paddington. Later on, in October 1917, Sullivan was with the 1st Battalion.

Our readers will be glad to hear that the Benevolent Fund at once came to the assistance of L/C Miller, late the Buffs, whose difficulties were recently referred to in *John Bull*. This is yet another example of the work being done by this Fund, some details of which will appear in our March issue.

The interesting relic sent us by Miss Hamilton, and referred to on page 50, opens up a more than interesting point, namely, where are to be found all the old Regimental Colours of all Battalions? We are hoping our readers may help us in tracing these. In the meantime we have set about making enquiries ourselves.

We hear from Mr. A. H. Baker that his son recently met a Garrison Qr.-Mr.-Sgt., Jeffery in Madras, who sends home his " Burra Salaams." If this is the " Jeff " we take him for, he was well known in our 2nd Battalion as the Schoolmaster, and many old Buffs will be glad to hear of him.

From Brig.-Gen. A. J. Whitacre Allen we have received a most interesting account of his experiences with the 2nd Battalion in the Zulu War. We look forward to giving publication to this in an early issue.

We are asked by the Hon. Sec. of the Benevolent Fund to thank the Sergeants' Mess of the 1st Battalion for the donation of £1 5s. 0d. collected by them on Christmas Day. And by the Hon. Sec. of the War Memorial to acknowledge a subscription of one guinea, from Capt. C. J. Hamilton, bringing up the grand total received on this account to £1,126 17s. 9d.

News has just reached us that the advance party of the 2nd Battalion left Amara for Aden on January 4th.

Congratulations to Lt. C. A. Winch of the Weald Company 5th Buffs on his engagement. So it is not in Thanet only where Cupid has been working overtime!

The news that no less than 320 Members of the 2nd Battalion have become Life Members of the Past and Present Association creates a record which will take a lot of beating, and the Association whose membership is so rapidly growing could not have had a better send off in the New Year.

Old Buffs turn their hands to all sorts of jobs, but surely His Worship the Mayor of Gillingham is the first to turn matrimonial agent. According to the papers he is in great request as a " purveyor of brides." Many are the thanks he has received from the happy couples he has brought together.

Joe Boorman, who has been unemployed for some time has a temporary job on the Alert (telegraph ship) at Dover. He has given up football, but still talks of how C Company won the shield.

Dan Sheeran is being replaced by a S. Sergt. as chief clerk to the Barrack Officer, Dover, and is taking over F. and L. Accountant, at Western Heights, Dover.

Owing to a severe outbreak of influenza in the ranks of our printers, the number of *The Dragon* has been brought out under great difficulties, and we crave the indulgence of our readers for any faults it contains, and their thanks to our printers for their game struggle.

WANTED!

By The Editor, " The Dragon," Depot The Buffs, Canterbury, back numbers of the May and June Dragons, 1921.

All Records Broken.

320 NEW LIFE MEMBERS FOR PAST AND PRESENT ASSOCIATION.

IT has been a great "New Year" for the Past and Present Association, no less than 320 members of the 2nd Battalion having joined as Life Members. It will be remembered that some months ago publication in *The Dragon* was given to the fact that 57 of C Company 2nd Battalion had taken that plunge, which no Buff ever regrets, namely joining the Past and Present Association of his Regiment. Now, I have received the welcome news of the joining, as Life Members, of a further 11 of C Company, 145 from A Company, 52 from D Company, and 55 (the full strength) of E Company, making a grand total of 320 Life Members in all from the 2nd Battalion, which must surely be a record.

* * * *

But this I feel sure is only the beginning of what is to take place during the current year, and I look forward to publishing, from month to month, news of the joining up of a great many more from among the several thousands of Past and Present Buffs who are available. For membership is not only open to the Past and Present of Regular Units but to those who are serving or who ever have served in any Buff unit, whether this may be, or may have been a Special Reserve, Militia, Territorial, Volunteer, or Service Battalion.

And for those to whom a "guinea down" may present a difficulty, the entrance fee with subscription for one year for ordinary members is only half a crown, and the future annual subscription only one shilling.

* * * *

In a recent issue of the *Gunner* I find no less than six and half pages of small type devoted to the names of "Gunner Friends" who have been established in all parts of the United Kingdom to work in connection with the Employment Department and Benevolent Fund of that Regiment. I am wondering whether it would not be possible to develop a similar movement in Kent.

* * * *

In the November issue, readers of the *Dragon* were asked if they thought Saturday a suitable day for all. on which to hold the Annual Dinner." So far, I have had no comments, neither has the Editor. So the dinner for 1922 has been fixed for Saturday, 7th October at Cannon Street Hotel. The price of the tickets is not yet fixed, but, anyone wishing to remit any amount towards the dinner may do so.

* * * *

Many are quitting the Regiment, either discharged or transferred to the A.R. Would all those leaving, kindly forward their address in order that notice of dinner, cricket week, etc., may be sent them.

A. ANDREWS,
Hon. Sec. Association of Past and Present Buffs.

Please Read This!

WE would be grateful if Correspondents, when communicating with us, would not only sign their names, but also mention ranks, or former ranks, decorations, late Battalions, and as many other particulars suitable for our Personalia Column as possible.

And at all times we are glad to receive short articles, sketches, drawings, and news, etc., in keeping with the paper. Manuscript should be written on one side of the paper only, and should reach the Editor, The Dragon, Depot The Buffs, Canterbury not later than the 14th of each month for publication in the following month's issue.

Regimental Notabilities.

MAJOR F. W. FOSTER.

Enlisted at Canterbury, 25/11/1886; Promoted Corpl. January, 1889; Sergt. June, 1891; Cl. Sergt. June, 1894; R.Q.M. Sgt. December, 1901; Lt. and Q.-M. June, 1913; Capt. July, 1917; Major, June, 1919.

Mentioned in Gen. Sir A. J. Murray's despatch, 25/9/16; in Gen. Sir G. F. Milne's despatch, 6/12/16; in Gen. Sir G. F. Milne's despatch, 4/6/19, and promoted Major from 3/6/19, for distinguished Service.

DECORATIONS.

Queen's S.A. (4 Bars), King's S. A. (2 Bars), and Long Service Medal, British War Medal; Victory Medal, and 1914–15 Star.

Short articles, sketches, drawings, and photographs are always acceptable for the Dragon.

The 1st Battalion.

FOOTBALL.

Army Cup. 3rd Round.

Buffs v. 1st York and Lancs.

ON Saturday, December 10th we journeyed to play the 1st York and Lancasters.

From the outset the Buffs began to press and, after some give and take football all in the opponents half, Lewis scored with a shot that beat the goalie all the way. Five minutes later we were awarded a penalty for a foul on McLean, who, (had not the whistle blown) would have scored easily. Woodward took the kick, but failed for once to keep up his reputation. After some little mid field play the York and Lancs right wing broke away and a beauty came to Woodwards, who saved by pushing it on to the bar, but on the rebound, their inside left tapped it into the net. So hence the result 1—1.

The replay took place at Fermoy on Monday 12th but we failed in a great game which everyone agreed was the best they had ever seen. At all times our's was the superior team. McLean managed to hit the bar and upright several times ; but No ! a goal was denied us. Our opponents scored in the first half, Woodward having no chance ; and he deserves special mention for his excellent display in goal.

Thus ends our tour in the Army Cup, by an unlucky lose 1—0. Anyhow, " Up the Buffs ", we are still in the Irish Cup.—G. R.

Irish Army Cup. 4th Round.

Buffs v. West Yorks.

For this round we were fortunate enough to be drawn at home, and the game was played on Wed. 18th Jan. Our team had all been on leave, so we were expecting great things from them. Owing to the recent hard frosts, followed by a downpour of rain on Tuesday, the ground was in a bad state, the going being remarkably heavy.

We won the toss, and immediately commenced pressing. Thrills were frequent. Once Lewis evaded both backs and with only the goalie to beat, put the ball over the top. Another few minutes and McLean came within an ace of scoring. However, our efforts were soon rewarded, a lovely centre from James being converted by Rye.

Play was very even for a period, both goals having narrow escapes. Eventually McLean got possession about 20 yards out and beat the goalie for the second time. This was all the scoring until half-time.

Having a two goals lead, we thought it pretty safe, but the Yorks started off again in a determined fashion, and, keeping up the pressure, were awarded a penalty, Pearsall handling in the " area." Woodward made a splendid attempt to save, and got the ball away, but it had evidently crossed the line and a goal was given. This heartened our opponents, and playing really good football, they drew level with a lovely goal from their inside left.

Things were now looking a bit blue, but we never lost heart, and a good forward pass, by McLean, was picked up by Jones, who, sprinting forward, sent in a cross shot which gave the goalkeeper no earthly chance.

Time was now drawing to a close, and our hearts were in our mouths less the Yorks should equalize. However the result was put beyond doubt just before time. McLean took a well judged corner which went straight to Rye's head, resulting in our fourth goal, and time was called with the final score 4—2 in our favour.

Both teams must have been glad to hear the final whistle, as it was a gruelling game, although one of the best we have seen. The visitor's forward line was the best we have met, and no small amount of praise is due to our defence, for so successfully keeping them out.

May the same result accrue from our match on Saturday in the 5th Round against the S. Staffs at Cork. They are formidable opponents, but I am sure our boys will give a good account of themselves.

Season's Results.

Our results to date are as follows :—

Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Goals for	Against.
13	11	1	1	38	9

THE SERGEANTS' MESS.

This month has again seen a good number of social gatherings in the Mess. First and foremost were our Christmas Festivities. On Boxing day our Single Members sat down to an excellent dinner, and were waited on by the Benedicts.

On the afternoon of the 27th December the Married Families were entertained to tea followed by the Kiddies' Bran Tub. In this we had the valuable assistance of Moss, the Regtl. Comedian, and judging by the shrieks of laughter, (grown ups as well as children), everyone must have had an enjoyable time. In the evening a dance and social was held which was a great success.

Owing to New Year's Day falling on Sunday, we had to have our big dance on the 30th. Our tastefully decorated ball-room has always been commented upon, but this time C.S.M. Barrell and his committee excelled themselves, and fully deserved the praise which came from all present. The floor was in splendid condition, and a good number participated.

Many were the regrets heard from our Fermoy friends that it was the last " Buffs " Dance here. Rumoers had been rife as to our leaving Fermoy, but at last we had the order to " pack up " For a couple of days nothing was seen but the caterer with his chits marked " checked and packed A.J.B." bobbing up from behind a packing case or a bale of straw. All the wind has subsided now, and we are waiting to " unpack " in Shorncliffe, where we shall perhaps, have the chance of some competitions with the Depot Mess.

Our weekly " evenings " still continue, and in spite of the absence of silver, pictures, etc., are very much appreciated.

We have bid adieu to three of our members in Sgts. Holmes, Real and Wood who have gone to civil life. Each was the recipient of a handsome present from the members, and we wish them the best of luck, and hope to see something of them in the near future, when they will always be heartily welcome.

Congratulations to Sgt. Acres on his marriage. If things go on like this we shall have no dining members at all. I think there will be quite six in mess at Shorncliffe. At any rate we are looking forward to some happy times there, the first of which I hope to record next month.

THE CORPORALS' MESS.

Can anyone solve this riddle for me ?

I went into the Mess one evening and what a surprise awaited me. Gone were the lovely pictures that used to adorn our walls. Gone were the curtains that used to shield our dark doings from the lynx like eye of the Regt. Joe Blake. Gone was the Dart Board and Shove-halfpenny slab. In fact everything was gone except an ugly old packing case on which was blazoned in fiery letters the mystic words " 1st The Buffs—Shorncliffe.

What is the meaning of those words ? (No prizes given for correct answer). Is our worthy Pressdent going on leave or (brain wave) are we leaving " Fermock ? "

(*Continued on next page.*)

The 1st Battalion—*continued.*

Surely not the latter, but there is a mysterious rumour floating around to the effect that a certain Battalion of war-worn and battle-scarred heroes is leaving Ireland about 1939 if the men are willing to soldier in England. It may be us.

I myself think that our President is thinking of getting married and is practising packing up but I may be wrong. But Enough! Let me write sense if possible!

During the last month we have met and defeated the Corporals 21st Bde. R.F.A. in a billiards tournament running out winners by 241 points. Space will not permit me to give full scores here but we managed to win six games of 250 up out of eight.

Our first monthly spoon shoot was held on the 8th inst. and turned out quite a success. Forty-one members participated, and L/C. Clover did well by running out top with 68 out of a possible 75 thus winning our first Silver Spoon, while L/C. Batson just managed to get the "Shovel" by scoring twice 2.5 points. Rumour has it that Batson is studying Bayonet Fighting now?

The remainder of the month, we have taken it easy as the Mess is packed up ready to move as I have nothing else worth recording. But as soon as we get to England I would like the Editor to allow me about ten Columns, as I am certain I shall not be able to get all our news into less according to the talk in the Mess as to what we are going to do when we get there. [*Buzz it in, and we'll do our best. Ed.*]

Now a word to the Corporals at the Depot. Get your Soccer, Darts and Billairds teams in training as I can assure you that we are after your blood.

Before finishing I wish to congratulate L/Cs. Shaw, Ridwell, Macro and Glover on their entry to the Mess. In the first named we have a great asset to our Soccer eleven.

BUNNY.

B COMPANY.

Since our last notes, the final of the inter-platoon football competition between the transport platoon and No. 6 platoon has taken place. The transport platoon won after a very good game by 3 goals to 1.

On the same evening, (13th December), the company Smoker took place, during which Colonel McDouall very kindly presented the McDoual Shield to the transport platoon, who have won 5 events out of 6. He also presented the medals for the inter company field firing competition to No. 8 platoon. The evening was a very jolly one, and we were given some very good songs and recitations by Ptes. Chambers, Moore, Sell and Brooks and Dr. Brothers. Our thanks are due to "Mossy" and L/C. Polkinghorne of the Band for their assistance in the concert.

Christmas day celebrations went off splendidly, and the Company Mess room was beautifully decorated by Cpl. Walker and Pte. Sell who are to be congratulated on their efforts. The Commanding Officer visited us, as is the usual custom, at dinner time and made a very appropriate little speech. There was no shortage in eatables, drinks and smokes, and the merriment was carried on without a hitch till 10 p.m.

We have played several friendly games of football lately :—against C Company whom we beat by 1 goal to nothing :—against the Band which resulted in a draw 2.2; and against the 1170 Coy. M.T. R.A.S.C. on two occasions, winning each time by 2.1 and 5.1 respectively.

Our congratulations to Sgt. Acres who has joined the ranks of the "Benedicts." And our best wishes to the draft, who recently left us for the Depot prior to joining the 2nd Battalion at Aden; also to Cpl. Gower who has gone to the Depot for a tour of duty. We shall miss his efforts in our dining hall.

We were very sorry to hear of Sgt. Curtis's accident. He was instructing the R.A.S.C. on the Kilworth ranges when one of the rifles unaccountably exploded wounding him in the leg and chest. We are however very pleased to know that he is well on the road to recovery.

We are sorry to lose Ptes. Kirkeldie and Eames who have been transferred to Section B Reserve, and Pte. Dalby who hasbeen discharged time-expired. Best of luck to them in the future.

The advance party left Fermoy for Shorncliffe on the 17th inst., and we are all looking forward to being accommodated in Risboro Barracks in the very near future.

Don't forget that if you have anything to sell, or if there is anything you want to buy, we will be glad to meet your requirements in The Dragon free of all charge.

PERSONALIA

We would like you to

SHORT SKETCHES

help us develop these features

REMINISCENCES

Obituary.

MRS SARGENT.

WE are indebted to Major F. W. Tomlinson for sending us the following :—

"Although one of the younger of Mrs. Sargent's old friends, I cannot refrain from writing a short, and I fear very inadequate tribute to her memory. I actually only knew her for twenty years, for it was in 1902, when posted to the Depot at Canterbury, that I first set foot in Ersham House—I come almost at the end of a long list of officers who found a second home there.

Mrs. Sargent's connection with the Regiment dates back to 1863 when she married Colonel John Neptune Sargent, then commanding the 1st Battalion; and later on from 1882—1885, she was in Hong Kong (General Sargent being G.O.C. China and Staits Settlements) when the Buffs were quartered there and it was there that the late Colonel E. E. Ravenhill became engaged to and afterwards married, her daughter Anne,

But it was at Ersham House that most of us knew her; always smiling a welcome to an old friend—and any officer of the Buffs was an old friend; always loath to say goodnight— however late it might be; always glad to see one again—years after tho' it were; always placid, always charming and always smiling.

Many of your readers, I am sure, feel with me that Mrs. Sargent's death marks one of those moments in our lives which, as with increasing years they grow more frequent, never grow less poignant.

Births, Deaths and Marriages.

BIRTHS.

Baker.—On the 4th January, 1922, at Canterbury, the wife of 6278165 Dmr. J. Baker, Depot The Buffs—a son (Robert William).

Causton.—On the 11th January, at 37 Boundary-road, N.W., Florence *nee* Lincoln), the wife of Capt. L. P. Causton, M.C., the Buffs—a son.

Follett.—On the 2nd December, 1921, at Fermoy, the wife of 6278065 C.S.M. S. Follett, 1st Buffs—a daughter (Geraldine).

Foote.—On the 20th November, 1921, at Fermoy, the wife of 6280370 L/Sgt. A. Foote, 1st Buffs—a daughter (Eileen Patricia).

Truby.—On the 8th December, 1921, at Fermoy, the wife of 6278171 A/Sgt. C. Truby, 1st Buffs—a son (Patrick Charles).

Whittingham.—On the 12th July, 1921, at Bangalore, India, the wife of 6278110 Sgt. F. Whittingham, 2nd Buffs—a son (Thomas Hordell).

Woolhead.—On the 14th November, 1921, at Porlock, the wife of 6336601 Pte. J. Woolhead, 1st Buffs—a son (Stanley Joseph).

DEATHS.

Heward.—On the 10th December, 1921, at Fermoy, 6280045 Pte. D. Heward, 1st Buffs.

Lamberton.—On the 23rd October, 1921, at Amara 6279689 Pte. G. Lamberton, 2nd Buffs.

Lapham.—On the 2nd October, 1921, accidentally drowned at Wahad Egrieb 6278947 Pte. C. Lapham, 2nd Buffs.

For Good Value

Place your custom with the firms whose names you find in the pages of The Dragon, and kindly mention The Dragon.

Colonels of the Buffs.

No. 5. Philip Stanhope, 2nd Earl of Chesterfield.

Colonel of the Buffs, 1682—1684.

PHILIP Stanhope, grandson of the 1st Earl, was Colonel of the Holland Regiment during the two years when John Sheffield, Earl of Mulgrave (the subject of our last article) was out of favour. Born in 1633, he married a daughter of the 10th Earl of Northumberland in 1652 and lived a life of comparative retirement until her death two years later. After that he soon became a notorious duellist and generally speaking a devil-may-care sort of fellow. Some time before his appointment by Charles II. to the Buffs, he had been offered by the Protector a command in his army and the hand of one of his daughters, both of which he declined; he however engaged in several love affairs and one engagement was broken off after "they had been thrice asked in St. Martin's Church." He was arrested in 1658 for an intended duel, and later in the same year was again sent to the Tower for plotting against the Protector, his would-be father-in-law, and only released on giving security in £10,000. He was a man who stuck to his principles and would swear allegiance to no man of whom he did not approve. It was perhaps for that reason that he was not so successful as the man whom he succeeded as Colonel of the Buffs and who in time succeeded him—at any rate he neither built a palace nor was he buried in Westminster Abbey, although, he is a writer of some distinction.*

When appointed to the Colonelcy of the Buffs, it was specified in the commission that he was to be "Colonell of Our Holland Regiment of Foote Guards;" but after a quarrel with the Duke of York, the latter had the word "guards" deleted from the commission. Later on, in 1684, on the return to England of Dumbarton's and the Tangier Regiments (now the Royal Regiment and the Queen's) it was intimated that both were to be given precedence of the Holland Regiment, simply, as far as we can judge to-day, as a result of the personal quarrel already referred to. This second slight was more than flesh and blood could stand; Chesterfield, before the actual publication of the order, resigned his appointment—and who shall blame eim—and was succeeded by Mulgrave who had by this time been restored to favour and jumped at thechance of resuming the Colonelcy of the Buffs.

**Posterity has consigned all Mulgrave's writings to oblivion, whereas the "Letters of Philip, Second Earl of Chesterfield" are still widely read.*

OURSELVES AND 1922.

"THE DRAGON" FREE--FOR ONE YEAR.

FROM US TO YOU.

OUR Pressing Need is More Subscribers. Will you help by obtaining these from among your friends? We think you will after you have read "Ourselves," as by doing so you will be helping us to fulfil our Fourteen Points. The circulation of "The Dragon" to-day is 2,400. Help us to make it 5,000, and we will beat the band!

PLEASE!!

Ourselves.

The "Dragon," quivering with life,
Is massaging his joints,
He'll stay the course and beat them all,
Here are his Fourteen Points.

ESPRIT DE CORPS amongst young Buffs,
PAST AND PRESENT for the old;
DISTRESS RELIEVING for them too,
INCREASE IN COPIES sold.

RELATIONS with the County folk,
Encouraged,—and *RECRUITING;*
ADVERTISEMENTS reliable,
With jobs *OUR LAME DOGS* suiting.

Getting *VOLUMES* "bound for" you,
And *COMPETITION* prizes;
Our *WAR HISTORY:* And sound replies
To *QUESTIONS* of all sizes.

Not the least, although they're last,
Are our *EXCHANGE AND MART;*
While as a *RECORD PERMANENT,*
The "Dragon" plays its part.

FROM YOU TO US.

ALL we ask of you is to send us the names and addresses of six (or more if you can), of your friends who might take "The Dragon" for one year. We will collect their subscriptions, and when received we will present you with "The Dragon," free gratis and for nothing, for one year.

THANKS!

Also GET OTHERS to

Obey that impulse!

The 2nd Battalion.

THE Battalion left Kirkuk in three echelons, the first on September 25th, the other two at intervals of two days. We all joined up at Uraishah, two days march from Kirkuk, and then proceeded to Baiji (railhead) as part of a column commanded by Lieut. Col. H. B. Potter, D.S.O. From there we moved direct to Amara, the last part of the journey from Kut being by river boat. After being stuck on a sand bank for over 24 hours, we reached Amara on October 12th.

We had a shower of rain about ten days ago—our first since May, and the ground has just recovered. A bad omen for when it really rains!

We were all glad when the Commanding Officer joined us again on October 17th, the 52nd Inf. Bde. having ceased to exist.

A Company are now in Camp on the range, and B Company are the next to fire.

Quite a lot of fishing is being done here—The Commanding Officer and the Adjutant have been out, and on November 6th both landed big fish—44 lb. and 36 lb. respectively. On hearing of their successful outing, one Subaltern was heard to remark; "Now is the time to apply for leave!!"

Armistice Day at Amara.

The day was observed by the Battalion as a holiday with the exception of the short but nevertheless impressive ceremony which took place in front of the Administrative Block in the centre of which the Guard Room is situated.

At a quarter to eleven the Guard Drummer sounded the Regimental call, very shortly after "D" Company under the command of Captain N. D. Rice, marched to the prepared parade ground and formed up, opened ranks to five paces interval and turned about, stood at ease in silence.

Precisely at 11.00 hours the Company was called to Attention and turned to their original front to face the river and the order "load" given and fire three volleys in the air. On the order to load the Regimental Guard was turned out by the sentry.

The Guard Presented Arms.

From the moment the first volley was heard everybody in cantonments ceased work and stood to Attention, and the two minutes silence commenced. At the end of the two minutes the Drummers of the Battalion sounded the "Last Post" and during the time it sounded everybody saluted.

I wonder what passed through the minds of those troops during the two minutes.

It was noticeable that a large party of a Native Labour Corps working on trussing up loose hay on the river bank close to the ceremony also sprung to "Attention" and remained so throughout. Did they know why it took place or was it instinct that something solemn was happening that called them so. Who knows?

Hockey—Harris Shield.

Semi-final B. v. C.

Played on a bumpy ground this proved to be a very fast game, and in the first half a very even one, half time seeing the score 2 all. Towards the close of play B Company dominated the game and ultimately ran out the winners by 4–2.

For the winners Lieut. King played the game of his life while L/Cpl. Beale and Pte. Brudenall worked hard at half back. Of the forwards Capt. Howe stood out and kept the whole line going. Lieut. Lister combined well with Sgt. Joy. Barnes was sound and dribbled well but Solomon would not keep in his place and lost several good chances. Cpl. Moore saved an almost certain goal by running out at the right moment. Pte. Beale played well at right half and should make a really good player.

C Company did not play as well as usual and their forwards were ragged. Lt. Hoare was badly missed. C.S.M. Vincer, L/C. Goodsell were the best forwards, while L/C. Marshall was excellent at centre. Furner saved his side again and again. Kemp should have saved one goal, otherwise he had no chance with the shots that scored.

Teams.

B Coy. Cpl. Moore, Lieut. King; Cpl. Crane; Pte. S. Beale, L/C. Beal, Pte. Brudenall, Pte. Soloman, Pte. Barnes, Capt. Howe, Lieut. Lister, Sgt. Joy.

C Coy. Cpl. Kemp. Pte. Furner, L/C. Kimber, Capt. Hamilton, L/C. Marshall, L/C. Robinson, Dmr. Taylor, L/C. Giles, L/C. Goodsell, C.S.M. Vincer, te. Boxall.

Referees. Capt. Rice and Lieut. Cartwright.

D. v. A.

On November 3rd, D defeated A by 8.0, (Scorers Lt. Cartwrigh and Sgt. Coaster). Rain was falling during most of the game, and the ground became very sodden. The teams were as follows:—

A Coy. Pte. Spooner; Sgt.-Dmr. O'Dell, Pte. Burns; Pte. Watts, L/Sgt. Liston, Pte. Martin; Sergt. Ongley, L/C. Ward, Pte. Murray, Pte. Rowe, L/C. Emery.

D Coy. L/C. Lawry; Pte. Lee, Cpl. Pack; Capt. Rice, Lieut. Penlington, Pte. Godden; Lieut. Rowe, Sergt. Coaster, Lieut. Cartwright, Pte. R. Freeman, Pte. J. Freeman.

Final D v. B.

Played on November 20th this was a fast game in which D Company, hot favourites, ran out winners by 6–0. In the second half an unfortunate accident occurred, Pte. Barnes of B receiving a nasty cut on the head which necessitated him leaving the field.

For the winners, Cpl. Pack, Pte. Lee, Pte. Godden, Lieuts. Penlington and Cartwright were most conspicuous while Capt. Howe, Lieuts. King, and Lister, L/C. Beal and Pte. Beale showed the best form for the losers.

Teams.

D Coy. L/C. Lawry, Pte. Lee, Cpl. Pack, Capt. Rice, Lieut. Penlington, Pte. Godden, Lieut. Rowe, Sergt. Coaster, Lieut. Cartwright, Pte. R. Freeman, Pte. J. Freeman.

B Coy. Cpl. Moore, Lieut. King, Cpl. Crant, Pte. Beale, L/C. Beal, Pte Brudenall; Pte. Soloman, Pte. Barnes, Capt. Howe, Lieut. Lister, Sergt. Joy.

The Sergeants' Mess.

Armara, we find, agrees with us. At present big appetites have taken the place (in the majority of cases) of big thirsts, owing to the cooler weather. Today, the 3rd November, it is raining, the first we have experienced for months, and gum boots will soon be the order.

On October 31st our first real social event in Mespot took place when we entertained the Rev. Col. J. T. Hales, O.B.E. who was accompanied by the Rev. W. Vassall, Church of England Chaplain to the Amara Forces, to dinner. It was a great evening and from the moment we were seated the fun started, leg pulling to further orders, and every member who attempted one on the Padre received as good as he gave, and a little more in some cases (ask Deeks). Our guests' advice on the Matrimonial Stakes caused great merriment, but put the "wind-up" Percy Vincer, and one or two who are about to take the "plunge"—when circumstances permit.

The dinner concluded, all assembled in the reading room for more "Chin-wagging." When the time came for our guest to depart, he expressed the enjoyment he had obtained by being with the boys. R.S.M. Andrews on behalf of the Members of the Mess, said how much they all appreciated the great honour of entertaining the Principal Chaplain—and Sportsman, and that they would always remember the very pleasant time spent in his company.

Thus a successful evening was brought to a close.

(Continued on next page.)

The 2nd Battalion—*continued,*

The Rev. Col. J. T. Hales.

An account of this memorable evening would not be complete without a few words about the guest of the evening.

No doubt numerous readers, especially those from Chatham, will recall him as the well known A.F.A. Secretary, and Secretary to the "never to be forgotten" Depot Battalion R.E. football team which played in the final for the Army Cup five years in succession, *i.e.* 1902–07.

He is a Tommy's Padre—and friend. This one realizes the moment one is introduced to him. And what he doesn't know of Army ways, and slang, isn't worth knowing. His morning address to the Battalion on Parade Service made a great impression, and revealed to us that here was a man who was conversant with Tommy's good points, also faults. In his address he said "you moan—well, we don't mind you moaning so long as you do your job, but, if you moan and don't do it, if I had the dealing with you I would give you a little extra to get on with."

Then who will forget his interesting recollections of the time he spent as Prisoner of War. Nothing could have brought home more to the younger generation what those who served before them went through; and how vividly those reminiscences revived in others memories of similar experiences. His passport from the Baron Von Bissing caused a great deal of laughter, as also did his description of his attempts at the culinary art and ironing. Perhaps one may be allowed to express the hope that the Principal Chaplain will treat the readers of *The Dragon* to an article dealing with his varied experiences.

The Sword for the Pen.

Having appealed to him for an article for *The Dragon*, I should like to do the same to All Ranks both past and present, especially those who were prisoners of war.

Now don't be shy. I know of several in this Battalion who have undergone experiences during the War, more exciting and strange than those I have read at times in the papers. Come now, exchange the "sword for the pen,—just for an hour and add interest to that already very interesting monthly *The Dragon*. A. B.

On Armistice Day.

On Armistice Day in the afternoon a football match had been arranged between the Sergeants and Corporals of the Battalion.

The team for the Sergeants was: Deeko in goal, Snowey Mannering and Charlie Gover, Backs; Half Backs: Liston, George Coaster, and Bunny Joy; Forwards: Chic Goldfinch, Peter Jackson, Perce Vincer, Porky Dennis and Chippy Hamblin.

The ground was damp and being of a clayey nature very greasy, still this only added to the amusement of the onlookers as player after player was bowled over or slid along on all fours. Deeko let the Sergeants down to the tune of three goals in the first half, he said the sun was in his eyes, but a Drill instructor who stood next to me passed the remark that he thought it was something totally different. Anyway Deeko made up for it with some slashing punches out in the second half. In spite of the strenuous endeavours of our forwards and halves there was "nothing doing" and we passed from the field "down" 3 nil.

And a Piano.

We have a piano in the Mess here and it adds much to the pleasure of the members. Evenings being a bit chilly now, and there being few outside attractions, the Mess is really beginning to be used more as a club. One or more crayon artists have lately taken to caricaturing the members and a screen has been dedicated to these "Efforts." Roars of laughter are heard as each fresh "Effort" appears. We hope to obtain one of each member before the artist or artists gets "done in." Of course the "Top of the Tree" was amongst the first to be "done" and thoroughly enjoyed the joke. "The True Spirit."

P. J. MacMahon.

[*How about some of these "efforts" for publication? Ed.*]

The Corporals' Mess.

Our Den at Amara has been aptly called, "The cosiest room in Barracks." On entering it, the tastefully laid tables and the pictures and photos lining the walls, to say nothing of the blue door curtains, fastened with real buff sashes, put one in mind of Home. Over the centre of the first table hangs the "Dydo" decorated with red, white and blue ribbons, and kept nicely polished by the faithful "Kak."

At 18.30 daily the fun begins. The entry of the President is the signal for the daily orders of The Dydo Salaamage Club to be read. To give our friends an idea of what these orders contain, a few dated 12/11/21 are appended.

1. Cpl. Jack will take the school for one hour's practice at Asahi Top Lifting. This will take place under the C.O.'s table at Orderly Room hour.

2. L/C. Tugger will report to Amara Shipbuilding Yard for the purpose of having his "Yarns" cut shorter.

3. L/C. Badnotes will proceed to Kneller Hall for the purpose of handing in all bent crochets. For further information he will report to Busby at The Carpet Store, Piccadilly, (Telephone 6891).

Occasionally the latest Communique from China is received. Here is an extract. "To President, No. 1 School, Cpls'. Mess, 2nd Buffs Amararara, Mesopolonica; From 7. 8, 9. 10 Jack, dated 19/19/19. aaa. Nonstop won Derby in fourth round, knocking out Inman with a cannon for three wickets aaa. Cpl. Marchon left Shanghai for Basrah Treacle mines for a course of counting front ranks. Cpl. Cloak awarded Bricklayers certificate 18/19/19 aaa. L/C. Bean arrived here yesterday en route to Crystal Palace to take over duties of N.C.O. i/c Window Cleaners. aaa ends aaa.

The Rest of The News.

We are pleased to welcome the notes of the 1st Battalion Corporals in *The Dragon*, and echo, with the deepest sincerity, their closing greeting to us in the September issue. When they do meet us we shall expect a licking at Darts, but will have our own back at Push-Pice and Backgammon. Our champion Push Pice Wallah is "Kak" with "Freddy" as his runner up, whilst the Backgammon King is "Floss."

* * * *

A Meeting was held on November 10th, the R.S.M. taking the chair and Freddy Faulkner presiding. Nazzum was vice-president. The main point discussed was how to celebrate Christmas. It was decided to hold a Whist Drive and Smoker. The date fixed is to be December 27th, so that the following day (Thursday) can be utilised for recovering from fat heads. A committee was formed to carry out the necessary arrangements and the following were elected. Bean, Ginger, Billie, Choppers and Joe, which being interrupted (we mean interpreted) mean, Stoken, Relf, Beal, Allen and Graham.

* * * *

On November 11th we gave the Sergeants a game of football, and the result was (naturally) a win for us. The slipperyness of the ground made the game rather amusing, and, to add more to the fun was the wit of the Sergeants' Goalie, Deeks, by name. To start with, he nearly filled the goal up, and during the first half he could be heard shouting "Go on Chick!" while after we had scored our second goal all he could think of was "Bilmey!" He only let one more through, then he showed us how goal-keeping should be done.

Our team consisted of Robertson (The Villa); Cloke (A.R.W.); Farr (Ashford); Giles (Hythe); Searle (Orient); Taffy Richards (Llandudno); Kimber (Oxted); Martin (Everton); Sidwell (Faversham); Faulkner (Swindon Town); Dray (Folkestone). Linesmen: Tug Wilson (Watford); Holmden (Sundridge); Trainer: Hassam (Upnor). The names in brackets represent the teams for whom they used to play, and that's why we won. It is noteworthy also that every one of our team have, at some time or other played for the Regiment. The result was 3-0, so sing Brothers, Sing!!!

* * * *

"Kak" Farr has recently vacated the position of "The Man behind the bar" and his place has been taken by "Snowy" Corrigan. It is sad to relate that the "Dydo" has lost its polish since the latter's arrival; most likely he does not feel worthy of applying bluebell and elbow grease to this sacred relic of Baghdad.

* * * *

A meeting was held on 7th December, 1921, at which the subject of our Christmas Smoker again came up for discussion. Bean Stoken proposed a "free night" for the benefit of the N.C.O.'s who are shortly going home, and also reminded us that he had not attended an accountancy course. His proposal was over-ruled by another, which was carried unanimously, that each departing member should receive a present as a token of good wishes from the Corporals' Mess.

* * * *

In conclusion, we congratulate L/Cpls. Burgess, Brann, Emery, Clarke and Waghorne, on becoming proud possessors of second stripes, and Cpls. Gover, Hollis, Buxton and Potter on being promoted to the Sergeants' Mess.

Things we want to know.

Who took Annan's polished top-lifter?

Does Argent always wash his plate in soup?

Who is the L/Cpl. seen daily walking across the barrack square with a Bank Book in one hand and a Sick report in the other?

Does he possess a conscience?

B Company.

The Company are now accommodated in huts which are fitted with electric lights and fans. The former are a great boon after the hurricane lamps and candles we had to use at Kirkuk. Lt.- C. R. B. Knight took over the command of the Company at Baiji, and we all hope that he will stay with us a long time, and Lt. A. A. J. N. Fernside-Speed has recently left us for Basra to do duty with the Graves Registration Unit.

In our two recent games of hockey we were successful against A Company, and drew with "C."

Early in October our two year "non bounty men," who had been detained for an extra year, left us en route for U.K. They were L/Cpl. Paterson, Ptes. Chivers, M.M., Parker, Wilton, and Dmr. Fifield. L/Cpl. Windsor, who was in hospital at the time the others left, went away early in November. We wish them all the best of success on their return to civil life.

Our congratulations (although very late) to the R.S.M. on the award of the "Long Service Medal."

L/Cpl. Beal has rejoined us from India, and we hope to send you a list of the many fights he has won during his tour abroad.

The deepest sympathy of the Company goes out to the parents and wife of Pte. Lapham who was accidentally drowned while bathing at Wadah Egrieb, also to the parents of Pte. Lamberton who died in the military hospital at Amara on 23.10.21.

(*Continued on next page.*)

The 2nd Battalion—*continued.*

C Company.

The absence of our letter from last month's number may cause many of our readers to wonder, and our contemporaries to gloat a little. To the former we apologise, to the latter we feel inclined to say "Rats."

During the recent move the lot of baggage guard and escort from Baghdad to Amara fell to C Company. The other Companies left Baghdad the same day as they arrived, but we remained here and made ourselves comfortable at the Combined Depot, Right Bank. We spent four days here waiting for a boat and during that time our cooks surpassed themselves and made the most of the large cookhouse.

On October 12th we embarked on P.S. 16, en route to Amara. Every day, owing to the shallowness of the river we bumped into sandbanks which wrenched the barges away and broke the ropes as though they were pieces of cotton. Otherwise the trip was uneventful.

When we reached Kut-el-Amarah it was found that we had to tranship on to the P.A. 4, a much larger and faster boat, and, after a thirty-six hours trip, we eventually reached our destination in safety. Our only casualty occurred at Baghdad, where, while loading our baggage, an officer's cabin trunk was reported drowned, but the C.Q.M.S.'s pack was rescued from a watery grave by a native.

Well, here we are, and here we seem likely to remain for the next four months. So as not to lose our reputation we are practicing hard at Hockey, for the Harris Shield competition. Budding cricketers can be seen practicing whenever they get the opportunity, and if we are to redeem any of the points we lost at Kirkuk, cricket must not be neglected.

We intend making Christmas a great success this year, especially the dinner, and on this our efforts are now centred. We will wind up this contribution with sincere wishes that *The Dragon* may meet with greater successes in the forthcoming year. [*Many thanks. Ed*]

F. A. B.

D Company.

Foremost perhaps in most of our minds—when we're not thinking about December 25th—is the fact that we have won the Harris Shield Hockey Competition, beating A eight-love and B in the final, six-love.

Our team on both occasions was the same as that which won the Kirkuk Sikhs *v.* Buffs inter company hockey tournament, with the exception that Lieut. Rowe, back from Baiji and Jim Freeman took the places of L/C. Dray and Pte. Crowley. Not a small item contributing to our success on both occasions was the sporting backing up the rest of the Company gave the team with their vocal (?) efforts. "Ginger" Sergeant and "Badger" Cook—who came in from the Musketry Camp to cheer—were particularly to the fore.

* * * *

We have'nt been idle in the work line either, just lately. In the "platoon in the attack" stunt a week or two back our Lewis Gunners distinguished themselves. They took a tin out ostensibly wherewith to make a noise, Pte. Band being noise-maker in Chief. The suggestion that the tin was taken out, and that the secn. under Ted Pack went out so far into the blue for the purpose of "liasing"—and if possible having some char and a wad—with A Company, whilst their comrades in arms were sweltering with the exertions of giving rapid fire and flinging themselves down on to the ground in a most violent fashion, is absolutely untrue. We are agreed however upon the truth of the statement that the Lewis Gun is a weapon of opportunity.

* * * *

Everybody seems to have taken pretty well to Amara and few men are to be seen without having their dainty hands adorned with the famous Amara-work ring. In fact, with the company chicken runs just outside the store, it's quite like home. O.C. Chickens (who said O.C. Eggs too ?) informs us that they are thriving, although one or two look somewhat depressed occasionally. Doubtless rather fed up at their Xmas prospects—they'll all be rather cut up then. Several afternoons this month have seen members of that select little band—the Xmas committee—escorting one or two unwashed grabs with chickens slung round their necks.

Some Personal Notes.

Lieut. Stainforth has been busy with the Company runners. L/Cpl. Martin has put in quite a lot of work with our fighting merchants. Chubby Warrington has been seen with the gloves on and it would seem that his right over-arm swing is a thing to be avoided.

Our piscators Comber and Clowes especially are often to be seen throwing lines baited with odourous and unviting type of fish food, into the slow running Tigris. Strange to state too, they've caught several mud-fish. Strange because pukka fishermen so rarely do catch fish.

Lieut. Brooke is still away at Baghdad. One of the four star footballers, Cpl. Sidwell is unfortunately in hospital with a crocked foot. His presence against B on December 1st will be sorely missed.

"G.R.U." has taken its toll of company members—they went to Basra early in the month.

* * * *

Lastly we wish to refute a rumour to the effect that Ptes. Fish, Badger Cook and their foreman Sgt. Deeks are contemplating getting their ticket and setting up a house decorator's and wall-paper expert's business. You'd think they were though if you popped into the Company store at most times of the day. On the rest of the front there is nothing of importance to report.

E Company.

The old year drawing to a close, our thoughts turn towards the Xmas Festivities, and a committee has been formed, composed of Col.-Sgt. Sayer, Cpl. Rattenbury, L/C. Burgess, and L/C. Stocken, to make the necessary arrangements.

We have started a chicken run, purchasing about 40 chickens, ducks, and cockerels, the run itself, made of wire netting and wood, etc., being constructed by L/C. Wilson, Ptes. Kimpton, Furner, A. E., and Pte. Furner A. G. (Buck). But unfortunately the defences, made of wire netting, etc., were not proof against night prowlers, in the form of Jackals, cats, etc., and, sad to relate, several casualties were reported next morning. To prevent the occurrence of this, the farmyard is now moved at night to a disused hut and locked in, and this has had the desired effect of preventing any further depletion in our stock.

We had one serious casualty in the form of L/C. Wilson, who, whilst running to catch a fowl, ran his nose against a thin wire, set up between two posts. He tore his nose badly, and several stitches had to be put in. The latest addition to a farmyard is a young calf which is kept in the Transport Lines and is being fattened for future comsunption.

While on the subject of fowls, E Company possesses the champion cock fighter, it havihg beaten the Dhobis and Nappus cocks in a three round contest. I might mention that the cocks do not have steel spikes or claws, but it is simply a case of pecking one another until one has had enough and runs away.

Well Worth Having.

ALL interested in Sport in the Army should obtain The Army Sports Diary, published by the Navy, Army, and Air Force Institutes, Imperial Court, Knightsbridge. Well bound in leather, and containing a complete list of fixtures for the year, Athletic Records, and the names of the Winners of all past Army Athletic Championships, to say nothing of a mass of other interesting and useful information, this is most certainly an invaluable pocket diary. And the price is two shillings only.

Other useful publications issued by the Army Sports Control Board are the Association, Rugby and Hockey Handbooks, obtainable from Messrs. Cooper and Co., High Street, Huntingdon, price 6d. each (post free 8d.) These are immediately available, whilst similar handbooks relating to Army Athletics, Boxing and Golf may be expected at an early date. And for boxers there is the Imperial Services Boxing Association Handbook published by Messrs. Gale and Polden for 1/- (post free 1/2). All of these are excellent value for the money.

Army Sports Diary for February.

Boxing.

Feb. 9. Army *v.* Oxford—Aldershot.
16. Army *v.* Milt. Police—Woolwich.

Football (Ass.)

Feb. 4. Army Cup, 4th Round concluded.
11. Army *v.* Corinthians.
25. Army Cup, 5th Round concluded.

Football (Rugby).

Feb. 15. Army *v.* Leicester, Leicester.
18. Army *v.* London Scottish, Richmond.
23. Army *v.* Blackheath, Blackheath.

Hockey.

Feb. 4. United Services *v.* Midlands (Int. Hockey Trial
8. Army *v.* Cambridge.
18. R.N. *v.* Army, Portsmouth.
22. Army *v.* R.A.F., Aldershot.

Racquets.

Feb. 27. Army Championships, Prince's Club.

Every Little Helps.

IF you do not keep your Dragons for binding or future reference, we would like you to pass on each number, when you have finished with it, to another, whom you think might be interested; or, failing that, to return it to us to enable us to do this for you.

B. & W. FISK-MOORE,
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In the Hands of Sinn Fein.

THE little courtyard in the Police Barracks at D—— was bustling with activity. Eleven-thirty and a pitch dark night; not a sound outside; but inside all preparation, quiet haste with an excitement in the air known only by those who have indulged in midnight raids. For such a raid was the order this night, and shortly after the half-hour the two cars left the Barracks, the first a Ford in the charge of Capt. A., commander of the detachment, and the second, a Crossley under Lt. B. The little crowd—no more than a dozen—was a mixed one, for soldier and constable were side by side and each had his rifle pointed outwards; one "up the flute," too, for it is to be quick and sudden if at all.

The streets of D——were deserted as the cars sped through. A place of the dead it seemed; and as the Ford shot over the bridge leaving the town Capt. A., toying with the trigger of his automatic, thanked Providence for the gift of a favourable night and revised the secret orders he had that day received from H.Q. O'Ryan who lived in a little white cottage off the road a few miles out was to be arrested and his house searched. It seemed such a simple task; but who knew what the night might bring?

Away along the W——road sped the cars until they reached a spot near the crossroads, when they suddenly turned down a narrow lane which they traversed for about half-a-mile, until by a pre-arranged signal from Capt. A they pulled up.

Leaving a few men in charge of the cars, the small party found a gap in the hedge and continued across country. No sound disturbed the night save the occasional snapping of twigs as hedges were negotiated. With rifles at the carry, tongues silent, and eyes and ears alert, the raiders pushed on until after two miles of cross-country a halt was called while Capt. A went on to reconnoitre. He was soon back with the satisfactory news that the cottage was at hand.

Stealthily creeping on, the men soon surrounded it, and the stillness of the night was disturbed by two loud knocks on the door. The usual wait ensued before a woman's head appeared at the window.

"Yes! It was O'Ryan's cottage; but Mr. O'Ryan shure, was not at home; but it's away at Ballyhooley he is to be sure; and glory to God she didn't know what they'd be after wanting him for:....."

Capt. A., Lieut. B., and an N.C.O. entered as soon as the door was opened and commenced their search. It was the usual type of Irish cottage and it was not long before several interesting if not very valuable papers were in Capt. A's pocket. The bed-room was the last room searched and as he entered, Capt. A caught sight of a baby lying rather awkwardly and unnaturally on the pillow. The bed clothes were off in a trice, and there, well down in the bed lay O'Ryan, the object of the search,—and the baby was on his head!

The search of the room completed, no time was lost in returning with the prisoner to the cars, and the party set off on their way back to barracks, but by a different route, O'Ryan being in the Crossley, the second car. They had just got over a narrow bridge and round a nasty bend, and were about 200 yards from Mumble's House—a large house in which was a smaller detachment of troops supplied by the detachment at D——, when suddenly, two shots rang out through the night. In less time than it takes to tell, the cars were pulled up, a small escort was left over them and the prisoner, and the party was through the hedge, on the side of the road whence the sound came. There was a steepish slope down to a field where stood a large oak tree. Bombs were thrown down and the locality scoured but there was no sign of a liying soul. Whoever had fired the shots was gone. No doubt he had fired from behind the tree and probably as a signal. But to whom?

Capt. A then went into Mumble's House in order to inform them of what had happened, and giving instructions to Lt. B to follow him in the Crossley at not less than 400 yards, resumed the journey, leading the way in the Ford, having also instructed that in the event of ambush, he would try to get through, and would then turn back so that both car parties would converge on the enemy. Eyes and ears were strained as the cars rushed on; fingers were on the triggers, and hearts beat a trifle faster. Capt. A was wondering whether after all, they were but stray shots, as were frequently heard, when, a volley was opened on the little car from the hedge a few yards to his right. Not one shot told on the car or its occupants and Capt. A was about to pull up when fire was again opened from his right. It was hotly returned though there were only the flashes to guide; and this time the steering wheel of the car was hit by the enemy.

Having got through, and in accordance with the pre-arranged plan, Capt. A. Cpl. W. and Sgt. H——(R.I.C.) jumped out and returned towards the scene of the ambush, occasionally dropping bombs over the hedges, while the Ford was sent on to barracks only to be fired on and put out of action lower down the road, the driver, however, continuing on foot across country.

Advancing along the road Capt. A and his two supporters suddenly spotted a man approaching them, who proved to be Pte. C—who had braved his way through from the Crossley. He reported that the Crossley party of eight had taken up a good position but had been attacked three times by a force of about 30, and had successfully driven them off each time; that there were no casualties amongst the small party and that during the engagements the prisoner O'Ryan was saying his prayers on the bottom of the Crossley! Ammunition, however, was becoming exhausted, so that the Crossley party had been forced to fight a rearguard action back towards barracks by another route.

The night was now quite quiet and was not so dark as it had been, for a moon was bursting its way through the heavy clouds. Capt. A and Cpl. W on one side of the road and Sgt. H and Pte. C on the other then continued their cautious way along the road, still back towards the scene of the firing. They had not proceeded more than some forty yards, when "Halt! Who goes there?" shouted in a loud voice pulled them up. "Friend!" answered Capt. A. "Who are you?" the voice replied. "I am Capt. A of The——" was the response.

At that moment the moon came out and cast its brilliance on the scene, and in that instant it revealed to the small party of four the presence a few yards ahead of them, in a gap in the hedge, of about fifteen of the I.R.A., who, as though in rehearsed chorus shouted "Put 'em up, you——!" But like an arrow from a bow Capt. A and his men were into the hedge and had opened fire on the enemy, who hastily took cover and returned the fire. Both sides continued firing hotly, and during the small engagement, Cpl. W. who had previously injured his knee again damaged the leg, and falling back into a ditch lay there, where he remained till he was rescued several hours later.

Ammunition having run short the small party, now three in number, decided to retire; and, unable to get through the hedge, were forced to move along the road. All firing ceased and about 200 yds. along the road Capt. A found a cottage. No sound of following footsteps had reached his ear, and, of opinion that the Sinns were at least 200 yds. away, Capt. A knocked at the door.

Immediately, they were surrounded and each found himself prodded with the barrels of five rifles, but not before Pte. C had thrown his rifle over and Capt. A his automatic into a hedge. "Put your——hands up!" was the polite request, and there was no alternative.

(To be concluded next month when the remarkable escape from death of Capt. A will be recorded.)

The Ladies.

HERE we have Basil, age 3½ and the little son of C. Sgt. and Mrs. J. D. Sayer of the 2nd Battalion — and a remarkably jolly little Basil too, who seems to be standing up well against the variations of the Indian climate. In the letter from his father which accompanies the photograph, the writer apologises for a "Buff and Brawny" butting into a Ladies Page where mere man usually fears to tread." Not a bit of it. I hope to go on publishing in this page photographs of the children in the Regiment for a very long time, and I feel sure both mothers and fathers will gladly help me; which wrings from me the confession that I have not one for next month—*at least not yet.*

OUR KNITTING COMPETITION.

This, our first competition, can, I think, be said to have been a great success. Below will be found a full list of those who entered, the names of the prize winners, the nature of the articles submitted, and their selling value as fixed by William Lefevre. Ltd., who very kindly undertook the judging.

I can only hope, that there will now be a ready sale, so that we can give the Benevolent Fund the greatest possible assistance. My best thanks go out to those who helped to make this competition such a success, and to Mr. Lefevre who so kindly placed the wide and valuable experience of his firm at our disposal. Here is the full result :—

1st Prize (15/-).

Mrs. Stone, Depot The Buffs, 1 pr. Men's Grey Knitted socks, valued at 8/6.

2nd Prize (10/-).

Mrs. W. A. Eaton, Sondes House, Bekesbourne, Blue Knitted frock, 18in., valued at 6/6.

Consolation Prize (5/-).

Mrs. G. Crawley, 40 Union St., Canterbury, White Knitted Polka Jacket, valued at 5/6.

Others in Order of Merit.

(4) Mrs. Harold Morgan, Woods End, nr. Oxford, White Knitted Polka Jacket, valued at 4/6.

(5) Miss D. Foster, Depot The Buffs, 1 pr. Helio bedroom slippers valued at 7/6.

(6) Mrs. Clifton, 21 Tennyson St., Liverpool, 1 Red Knitted Frock trimmed putty, 24 in., valued at 9/-.

(7) Mrs. Youngman, 4 Castle St., Canterbury, 1 Saxe Knitted frock, trimmed white, 20 in., valued at 6/6.

(8) Mrs. White, The Red House, Lower Hardres, 2 prs. Men's Brown Knitted socks, valued at 3/- per pair.

(9) Mrs. Baynes, Ickham, 1 pr. Fawn Knitted Bed Socks, valued at 3/-.

Note.—A Fourth entry was received from Mrs. H. H. C. Baird, but unfortunately illness prevented her completing her article in time. She writes saying she hopes to send it in shortly for the benefit of The Benevolent Fund ; and I am sure my readers would like me to say here how much we all hope that Mrs. Baird may have a speedy recovery.

And Some Subscriptions.

I am indebted also to Mrs. Wellesley Miller of Eastbourne, and Mrs. R. Smith of Broadstairs for sending in subscriptions of 7/6 and 2/6 respectively for the benefit of the fund—these to take the place of knitted articles.

Method of Sale.

The prices quoted are not in any way binding, and I propose that the highest offers received by the 15th February shall be those accepted. No article will be sold prior to that date, and those articles for which no offers are received will be advertised again in the March *Dragon.* And in conclusion all the articles in question can be seen in *The Dragon* Office, at The Depot.

ANOTHER COMPETITION.

Encouraged by the success of our first competition, I think we must have another. And here it is. Two prizes of 10/- each will be given to the senders of the best Baby Bonnet, the cost of the material of which must not exceed 3/6. Any material can be used such as for instance, silk, wool or cotton, and all articles will be sold for the benefit of The Benevolent Fund. By allowing any material the crochet and sewing workers will be given as equal a chance with the Knitter.

The closing time for entries will be the 14th March, and the full result of the competition will appear in the April *Dragon.* Now surely I am not too optimistic, if I express the hope that this time we shall have at least 20 entries. And, by the way, the Editor has just told me, that if any entries are received from Children of 12 years and under, he will give a special prize o 10/- for the best of these submitted.

TO THOSE AT SHORNCLIFFE.

About the time this number of *The Dragon* will make its appearance, the married families of the 1st Battalion will be busy getting into their new quarters at Shorncliffe, and no doubt their experiences both during their move and whilst getting settled must be wide and varied. This being so, I am hoping I may expect an article relating to them for *The Dragon.* In fact there is nothing that would please me more than to be able to publish on this page, regularly each month, the news and views of the married families of all Battalions and The Depot. Any offers, therefore, from those among the Buff married families who would care to become regular correspondents to *The Dragon* would indeed be welcome.

HOME HINTS.

When planting-out things—seedlings or bushes—if the hole is filled with water (rainwater for choice) and the plant put into the puddle, and then the earth filled in, the plant will not wilt before taking root.

An old rubber hotwater bottle makes excellent hinges for a rabbit hutch.

J. HUNT & SONS

Drapers, Men's Hosiers
House Furnishers

LARGE STOCKS OF
RELIABLE & HIGH CLASS GOODS
AT POPULAR PRICES

1—6 Mercery Lane, CANTERBURY

The Fairy Ring.

OUR SERIAL STORY.

Chapter IV.

In which Mr. Bunter lowers the Spirits of his wife and the Purser, and in which the Hero meets the successor of the heroine.

"I RECKON I've covered as much of this little globe as most American citizens of my acquaintance."

The speaker was Mr. Silas P. Bunter reclining at ease in the Purser's sumptuous suite, where regaled with the best Havanna cigars and the choicest whisky, he was enlarging, to an audience consisting of his wife and the occupier of the room, upon his travels in general, and his recent visit to the ancient land of Egypt in particular.

He found a ready listener in the Purser, who, despite the limitations of life at sea imposed on him, found time to exercise a long standing interest in the engrossing subject of Egyptian Archaeology.

Mr. Bunter always grew expansive under the influence of alcohol, and it was not long before he was describing in detail an *objet* he had recently acquired through the medium of an archaeologist engaged in the excavations at Memphis.

"I was fortunate enough to meet at Shepherd's Hotel in Cairo—you know it?—a remarkably intelligent professor, Dr. Keith McKenzie, who kindly assisted me in the purchase of a ring, which was worn four thousand years ago by Queen Hatsuma on State occasions. When I wear this ring I frequently throw my mind back across the intervening years, and try to conjure up the picture of that long-dead Queen, surrounded by her glittering court, way back in the dawn of civilization..."

The Purser's enthusiastic eyes shone with pleasurable anticipation. But the effect upon Mrs. Bunter was of a very different nature; she had appeared restless during the recital and seemed to be apprehensive of something. Taking advantage of the momentary lull, she leant forward carefully, and whispered in her husband's ear:—

"Silas, dear, I think you have said enough; remember, even walls have ears. You know how careless you are with the ring, and I have an intuition that even now it is in jeopardy—it isn't its value I'm worrying about, but remember your promise."

But Mr. Bunter entirely ignored his wife's appeal and unheedingly drained his glass.

"I don't care what the boss or the boys say now,—and after all it is my ring, aint it?—I bought it."—here his wife made a gesture of despair—"and," he went on recklessly "Whats it do with you? Haven't we left Ireland far behind us—unless perhaps you'd like to go back, eh?" and he leered at her, drunkenly.

She shrank from him, and it was easy for the Purser to see she was not far from tears. Once outside the door she sped swiftly with heaving breast down the corridor to her stateroom. To her amazement she saw a light shining through the window above her cabin door, which went out suddenly as she put her hand on the door knob. Carried forward by the excitement of the last few minutes she burst into the room and...was face to face with Hugh!

"You!—here!—if my husband....."

He cut her short.

"Ssh!" and seizing her by the wrist "for God's sake don't make a noise; I will explain. I had to come here, I must tell you, I am your friend. Oh! let me help you!" It was the inspiration of the moment, but his agitation lent it the colour of passion; for, indeed, some reason for his inexplicable presence was imperative.

The impetuosity of his declaration stunned her for the moment, and then she burst into a paroxysm of uncontrolled weeping. It seemed as though her heart would break, and she surrendered herself sobbingly into the strong arms that were waiting to encircle her. At the feel of her warm body palpitating against him, something of the old love he bore to Sheila was awakened in him.

"Hush, darling" he whispered, but he got no further. For at that moment the sound of the heavy unsteady footsteps, so well known to her, reached them.

"My God," she muttered, "he's coming!"

Looking frantically round the room her eyes sought for a place of refuge for Hugh. There was nothing but an Innovation Trunk (*advt.*) which was in the corner by the port hole. She rushed to it, opened it, and just as she had closed its lid on Hugh, Bunter entered.

"What are you snivelling about, you cry-baby" he muttered thickly. "Where's my dressing gown?" and he lurched all suspectingly towards Hugh's hiding place.

Terror stricken, she sprang forward and laid a restraining hand upon his arm.

"No, no" she moaned.

He turned upon her in bewilderment. "What the devil....," and as his bloodshot eyes lit on her, he realized she was concealing something from him.

His first thought was the Ring. With an oath he thrust her from him and strode to the dressing table. One glance was sufficient.....

"What have you done with it?" he thundered and with a snarl he seized her by the throat.

"Stop, stop, you're killing me" she gasped.

At that instant the lid of the trunk flew open and Hugh bounded out.

"You swine" he cried.

Sobered by this unexpected turn of events, Bunter's hand shot to his hip pocket, and in a flash Hugh found himself looking down the barrel of a six shooter.

Hugh saw his only chance lay in getting to close quarters, and rushing blindly at the bully, he seized him by the wrist.

A short scuffle ensued, and a shot rang out in the stillness of the night...

(To be continued.)

Thanks very much.

WE are indebted to the following who have very kindly brought their subscriptions for 1922 up to the 15/- rate as suggested by T.O.M. in his article "A Practical Suggestion," which appeared in our Christmas number.

Brig.-General A. J. Whitacre Allen, C.B., P. R. Asprey, Esq., Colonel A. S. Barham, C.M.G., R. O. Bettington, Esq., W. E. Birrell, Esq., Major W. H. Booth, D.S.O., O.B.E., F. V. Boumphrey, Esq., Colonel Sir Theodore Brinckman, Bart., C.B., Major E. E. Burns, Mrs. W. N. Chapman, Major E. Clarke, Pte. F. W. Clay, Major C. C. Cobbe, Major F. W. Darwall, Colonel G. V. Dauglish, J. Druce, Esq., J.P., Lt.-Colone F. Mainwaring-Dunstan, Captain D. G. Ferguson, W. R. Findlay, Esq., Mrs. R. S. Goff, Captain C. Greig, (per Lt.-Col. Messel), Major A. C. Grigg, Lord Harris, Captain H. J. Hepworth, A. M. Hilton, Esq., Major H. L. Archer Houblon, Major P. Kingsland, Captain W. C. Lamarque, Captain N. Linwood, W. A. Lochee, Esq., Lt.-Colonel L. C. R. Messel, O.B.E., Captain V. N. Moss, M.C., Lord Northcliffe, Captain W. R. Orwin, Lt.-Colonel F. Phillips, D.S.O., M.C., F. H. Plummer, Esq., Major G. A. Porter, Captain A. Howard Reed, W. P. Robertson, Esq., Captain W. V. Sinclair, A. F. Tailby, Esq., Lt.-Colonel B. R. K. Tarte, Major H. A. B. Ternan, Mrs. Tomlinson, Major F. W. Tomlinson, Colonel Sir Courtney Vyvyan, C.B., Bart., Dean Wace, C. C. Worters, Esq.

Mutt and Jeff.

The Army Encyclopædia.

DOCTOR.—A man learned in the science of medicine, who, on attaining proficiency, is entitled to write the letters M.D. after his name. Numbers of doctors eventually join the R.A.M.C., some being attached to units, for whom they act as Medical Officers. As army officers, they cannot of course write the letters M.D. after their names, but in order not to forget them, they indulge in the habit of writing them upon sick reports.

DODGER.—One proficient in the art of dodging the column. (He shall not, however, dodge this one).

Invariably engaged "squaring" everything and everybody but his own carcase. He has a grouse at meals because there is none to eat, gives his fellows the hump and usually carries one on his back, puts the cant in canteen, the rack in barracks, and the "arm" in Army, and walks out, when he is not too lazy to clean his buttons and belt, with a girl named Mona.

DOG BISCUITS.—(*The Editor regrets that this has been deleted by the Quartermaster*).

DOINGS.—That which the absent-minded recruit said The Buffs was famous for when he was at a loss for the correct reply to a question by his instructor. He was right.

DRAGON.—A monstrous winged Saurian armed with deadly powers, the most notable of which is nowadays the Ability to lower bank balances to the tune of 15/- yearly, which he appropriates entirely for his own sustenance.

DRESSING-UP.—One of the things soldiers must not forget on parade.

DRESSING-DOWN.—That which they get if they do.

DRILL.—That with which things are bored, soldiers in particular.

DRUMMER.—The miscreant who sounds reveille, so called because he blows it upon a bugle.

DUCK.—A bird, which, so long as he is well fed with subscriptions, will always succeed in keeping his head above water.

DUMMIES.—The name given by musketry instructors to imitation cartridges, also to those for whose benefit they are issued.

Why Tarry Thou?

I PRAY thee haste, O maiden fair,
Spring-time is calling now,
All-conquering Love enchants the air—
Why tarry thou?

I long to clasp thy form divine
Within my strong brown arms,
To press thy flutt'ring heart 'gainst mine—
Why tarry thou?

I long to hear thy tender sighs
When lips to lips have pressed,
To see the Love-light in thine eyes—
Why tarry thou?

Thy voice—Ah, me! Beloved Soul—
In after years may yell,
"Go quickly now, bring up some coal,
Why tarry thou?"

H.

WANTED.—Names and Addresses. *Vide* **page 36.**

A GOLDEN WEDDING.

Sir,

Re your note in *Dragon*, I must let you into a secret. We celebrated our golden wedding in 1918—having been married on the 8th October, 1868. We are now on the road to our "diamond one." I thought I must let you know. Cheero!

Yours sincerely,
W. E. R. KELLY, Col.

Datchet, Bucks.

AND A SILVER ONE.

Sir,

To-morrow, the eleventh Jan., is the 25th anniversary of "Gus" Baker's wedding. I know he is a regular correspondent of yours, but I doubt if he would let you know of this. So thinking you might like to publish it in your Feb. issue as a surprise for him I thought I would let you know.

Yours faithfully,
THE BLOKE WHAT TYPES BAKER'S LITERARY EFFORTS.
C. A. R.

Enfield Wash.

[*We are hoping that news of other Regimental Diamond, Golden, and Silver Weddings may be sent to us. Ed.*]

PAST AND PRESENT COLOURS.

Sir,

May I also express the hope that all Past Buffs may be allowed to wear ties and hat-bands of the Regimental colours, as mentioned by R.Q.M.S. Andrews in the October *Dragon*. This, I consider, would assist all Old Buffs to recognise old comrades at such gatherings as the Canterbury and Depot Cricket Weeks, and other similar occasions.

A. S.

Fermoy.

THE DRAGON HELPS.

Sir,

Very many thanks for the trouble you have taken in obtaining for me the Certificate relative to the Course of Instruction I underwent at Moore Park, Kilworth. Your kindness is much appreciated.

Yours faithfully,
H. C. WEEKS.

[*Publication is given to the above merely to draw attention to the fact, that if we can ever give a helping hand to any Old Buff in respect of his pension or any matter arising out of his service, we are always ready to do what we can. Ed.*]

SOME OLD HANDS.

Sir,

A few months ago you published the names of the 2nd Battalion who went out in 1905 to South Africa, and again in 1920 to India. Good luck to them. But only a very small percentage of them had served continuously with the Colours.

Now the 2nd Battalion harbours in their excellent C.O. Col. W. H. Trevor, one of those who went to South Africa in December '99 on the Gaika, and the same applies to Tim Kelly (C.Q.M.S.) of the 1st Battalion, and Major F. W. Foster and R.Q.M.S. Andrews of The Depot. All of these have served continuously with the Colours.

There are many others of the old 2nd who went out in '99 knocking about. For instance I saw the following at the recent Past and Present dinner:—Brig.-Gen. Finch Hatton, Captains H. H. C. Baird, G. Boon, E. Smith (then O.R.S.), A. Barton, N. Linwood, Birrell, S.-Major N. Catchpole, to say nothing of Tim Rylott, Jack Baker, Adams and many others.

Yours etc.,
A. ANDREWS, R.Q.M.S.

The Depot.

KANGAROOLAND.

Sir,

I have just read Mr. J. Bennell's experiences in Australia, and his reference to the difficulty of obtaining employment there. I quite agree with him (having had some), but, perhaps Mr. Bennell made the same mistake as the great majority do who go to Kangaroo land to make a fortune. That is to remain at the port of landing which naturally gets flooded with immigrants.

My humble advice to all, who intend migrating to the colonies, is summed up as follows:—(*a*) Be prepared to accept *anything* that comes along in the shape of employment.

(*b*) *Don't* hang around the seaport towns. Get away back, where you will find the people who are more likely to treat you as a human being.

I have had a taste of Australia, and New Zealand. The latter is a lovely country, similar in many respects to the Old Country, and farm work was fairly plentiful, and could always be utilized as a jumping off ground to something better. But my candid opinion of Australia is about on a par with what I used to think of the Lame Jack, who used to commandeer me for cool fatigue (the morning after the night before). Nuf sed! I hope you had a good supply of "Prisoner of War" articles sent in, because they are certain to make interesting reading.

Yrs. etc.,
E. P. FRANCE,

Premier Mine,
Transvaal.

AN OLD RELIC.

Sir,

I think the enclosed portion of The Buffs Colours, which was amongst my late father's possessions may be of use to you. Wishing the *Dragon* every success in the New Year

Truly yrs.,
(MISS) HILDA HAMILTON.

Folkestone.

[*We are sure that the thanks of the Regiment as a whole will go out to Miss Hamilton for this kind gift. The fragment of the old colour, the first to be presented to the present 2nd Battalion in* 1858 *is being sent out to Lt.-Col. W. H. Trevor, commanding the 2nd. Battalion. Ed.*]

OLD SWEATS.

Sir,

With reference the recently published List of those who came out with the 2nd Battalion 2/6/05 and are still serving with it, may I add the following:—No. 6457 Sgt. V. MacMahon and No. 6693 Pte. J. Smith, both of whom were taken Prisoners of War in 1915 and rejoined the 2nd Battalion in 1919.

Yrs. etc.,
AN OLD SWEAT IN AMARA.

SOMETHING MISSING.

Sir,

May we not have the Regimental Gazette of the 4th Battalion in *The Dragon* as well as that of the Depot and the two regular Battalions.

Yrs. etc.,
SECOND LINE.

Margate.

"Beneath Bell Harry."

By Treadmill.

ONCE more I take up my pen and assume the mantle "handed over" by Old Man Squeegee.

The ravages of influenza have put work and play almost at a standstill. The recruits first succumbed. then one of the officers, followed in quick succession by the majority of the Sergeants' Mess. And now the R.S.M. has taken to his bed. The only apparent result of inoculation has been to give the "innoculee" a go of "flu" or a violent cold which he cannot shake off. Perhaps it has saved us from having any really serious cases.

Last night we experienced all the thrills of a real arctic blizzard. The snow drifts in places being over a foot deep. As I write we are moving about in a sea of slush, but no doubt to-morrow, according to the usual rules of the game, we shall be wearing summer suitings and praying for cold weather again.

Recently I came across the old Standing Orders for the East Kent Militia of 1812, and I append a few extracts which I feel sure will be of interest to the majority of readers.

Punishments.

The regiment entire under arms, and with bayonets fixed, formed into a hollow square, is to attend and witness these painful but, necessary acts of military justice; every solemnity is to be observed, and the depraved and vicious soldier, who has disregarded admonition, and defied the restraints of wilder coercion, must be taught to tremble at this.

No tenderness for individuals must weigh against the great object of deterring others by terror of example.

No man is ever to be punished with the same cat with which another man has been punished on the same day.

Each delinquent (it being the custom of the service) is to pay the Drum Major sixpence, to keep a supply of instruments for punishment (Note: It is presumed that in Scotch Regiments this was called "paying the piper" hence the expression Ed:). A large cat to be provided for the punishment of desertion and theft, and a small one for minor offences.

Confining, Barrack Square and Black Hole.

No man can be confined in the black hole but by order of the Commanding Officer.

When a soldier is ordered to be logged for lesser offences, he is to pay three pence per week to the Quarter Master Sergeant, by the Pay Sergeant of his company, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of logs, chains and pad-locks and for their repair.

Xmas Entertainment.

On the afternoon of the 21st December some 140 children and their parents assembled at the Depot to enjoy a splendid Christmas entertainment arranged for and attended by the Commanding Officer and Mrs. Crookenden, who were ably assisted in making the affair such a complete success by all the remaining officers of the Depot. All sat down to tea at 4 p.m., following which dancing and musical chairs proved highly amusing to many of the grownups as well as the younger revellers. All lights were suddenly extinguished, and the Stage curtain was raised to reveal to the delighted gaze of all a beautifully decorated large Christmas Tree groaning with good things. Every child present then received at the hands of a jovial Father Christmas, gifts including toys, fruit and sweets.

Football.

Herne United v. The Depot.

Played on the Herne United ground on December 10th, the game was very even, neither side claiming an advantage in the first half. The second half opened with a penalty, being awarded to the Depot which was taken by R.S.M. Dare and resulted in a goal. This put new life into the Depot, and after two minutes play, a beautiful goal was scored by Drumgold, from a nice centre, from Middleton, leaving the Depot winners by 2.0.

Buffs v. Canterbury Rovers.

This was both a benefit and league match played on Wincheap Grove Ground on the 14th January, the benefit being for Mr. Munday who had the misfortune to break his finger in the Inter-League match on Boxing Day.

Play started at a very hot pace, the Rovers putting up a good fight. Our first score was from a free kick which L/C. Middleton placed in the goal mouth and young Skelton, our new centre forward from the 2nd Battalion rushed the ball through amidst the cheers of our supporters. The second half was also very fast. In this we scored a second goal through a lovely pass by Skelton to Ingram who broke through giving the goalie no chance. Result 2.0 in our favour.

Hockey.

Since the Christmas holidays the Depot has had only one game, and that against a Mr. Dawes Eleven. This game was quite the best played to date, being very fast and the ball kept well on the move. The result was 4.3 for the Depot. (Scorers:—Lt. Willows, 1, Jones 2, Clayton 1). thus opening for the New Year with a win.

The Depot Team had several changes owing to Leave, Influenza, etc., and of those who came in, the Left half (*name please, Ed.*) played a great game in very ably contending with our opponents right winger, who was always dangerous.

Hockeyist.

The Sergeants' Mess.

After Christmas and the New Year things have almost settled down again to normal, and had it not been for the recent invasion of the Flu (which, indeed, is still with us) progress in every department would have been made on the customary lines. That miserable germ has retarded matters to a somewhat large extent, particularly in the training of the younger generation.

To hark back to Xmas. Almost all of the Members of the Mess were on leave, and the few of us remaining looked after the comfort of the Corporals and Privates who had a most appetising spread on Christmas Day and, by all appearances, enjoyed it to the full. C.S.M. Couchman had taken great pains in the decoration of the Restaurant and it was generally remarked how very comfortable and inviting the room looked.

The Mess had their Xmas dinner on New Year's Day, when practically all of the Members had returned to the Depot. We were well looked after by Caterer Victor Jones and Sergeant Broughton,—a well cooked meal and plenty of it—and the remainder of the day was spent in harmony and chin-wagging.

A New Year's Dance was held in the Garrison Gym. on December 30th. A most happy evening was spent, and the event was a huge success from every point of view. There were over 200 guests, including several officers of the Garrison. Dancing continued until 2 a.m. C.S.M. Mason carried out the duties of M.C. The dance was voted "the success of the season." The music was under the able direction of Corpl. Collier, a popular feature being the revival of the now almost extinct polka, which was danced with great zest by many of the "Old Brigade."

(*Continued on next page.*)

Beneath Ben Harry—*coniinued.*

On New Year's Eve (December 31st) a Social gathering took place in the Mess. The place was crowded out with members, both past and present, and some rattling good musical turns were heard. C.S.M. Pigott (as usual), rendered several items, including that old favourite of his " There were three crows sat on a tree." Mrs. Adams (wife of the Bandmaster 10th R. Hussars), Miss Smith, ex-R.S.M. Jones, (accompanied by his daughter), and others sang some excellent songs, and the evening wound up with a most amusing entertainment by two Artistes who came over specially from Whitstable and sent us all home in a very jovial mood. R.S.M. Dare spoke a few highly encouraging words to the assembly, and our dear old friend Sid Sutton told us what he thought and still thinks of the good old Buffs.

Shooting.

C.S.M. Pigott and Sergeants Potter and Legge have been recent winners of Silver Spoons in the monthly Shoots, while Sergeants Hook and Maillard have had the honour of having their names inscribed on the huge wooden one which hangs up in the Mess, and, incidentally, of " filling it up " with a beverage, the delightful flavour of which passeth all understanding.

W. M. S.

Ourselves v. The Police.

The members entertained a number of the Canterbury City Police on the 14th December in the Mess, and games between the guests and their hosts resulted as follows :—

SERGTS. *v.* CITY POLICE.
BILLIARDS.

NAME.	SCORE.	NAME.	SCORE.
C.S.M. Pigott	100	Sergt. Richardsfi	80
C.Q.M.S. Ransley	100	P. C. Cooper...	89
C.S.M. Couchman	100	P.C. Inge	91
C.S.M. Mason	100	P.C. Petts	59
Sergt. Maillard	100	P.C. Moon	76
Total	500	Total	395

Cribb	6 —	0
Whist	0 —	2
Shooting	195 —	110

CORPORALS' "WHIST DRIVE AND DANCE."

On Friday, 13th January, a successful Whist Drive and Dance, organized by The Corporals' Mess, took place in the Garrison Gymnasium.

Twenty-six tables were in play and everything went off smoothly. The handsome prizes were presented to the winners by Mrs. Foster. The recipients being as follows :—1st Ladies, Miss Farnell; 2nd—Ladies, Miss Warner; Booby—Mrs. Webb. Gentlemen —1st, Mr. Webb; 2nd—Mr. Donaghue; Booby—Mr. Christie. Lucky Number, Mr. Goldsmith.

Much amusement was caused when the winners of the Booby Prizes were asked, to exhibit their prizes, which they sportingly did; the Lady's being a card of batchelors' buttons and the Gent's a card of safety pins.

R.S.M. P. Dare, speaking on behalf of the Corporals' Mess expressed thanks to the Company present for their hearty support in attending in such large numbers, and proposed a vote of thanks to Mrs. Foster for kindly presenting the prizes. This was greeted with three cheers and " Tiger "; as was also the vote of thanks to the Visitors. Refreshments were then served, and dancing commenced. A very enjoyable programme was much appreciated by everyone present. The end came at 2 o'clock with everyone happy.

W. DRISCOLL, L/Cpl.

If you want to get into touch with an old comrade, send us full particulars and we will do our best to help you.

Short articles, sketches, and drawings are always acceptable for The Dragon.

Mistress : " Why are you leaving me, Mary ? Is it for something private ?

Mary : " No mum, sergeant."

At one of the camps was a young rookie, who during his first few days was subject to much chaff and leg-pulling which made him doubt all men and their motives.

One dark night an Officer was visiting him on sentry.

" Who goes there ? " he challenged.

" Major Moses," replied the Officer.

The rookie scented a new joke. " Glad to meet you, Moses old top," cheerfully he replied. " Advance and give the Ten Commandments."

Heard on the range at Hythe :—

Very young Soldier (to Sergeant Major, who has had a miss signalled at 200 yards) :

" You missed the target that time, sir."

Sergeant Major—" If you'd been shooting at these—targets for the last 18 years you'd—well miss the target."

Later at 300 yards the Sergeant Major gets a bull.

Same very young soldier—" You got a bull that time, sir."

Sergeant Major—" If you'd been shooting at these—targets for the last 18 years, you'd—well hit the bull too."

Very young Soldier retires wondering !

" What's this I hear, Mrs. Cassidy ? " said the vicar, during his call. " Young Michael joined the Army ? Good : and what regiment have they put him in, eh ? " " Never a bit do I know what the letters mane, yer riverence, but they must ha' put him in the Y.M.C.A.'s, for that's what's on all his letters."

Many of our men returned from France with a much better knowledge of the language than they went out with, and a certain Cockney we wot of is no exception. He is very proud of his French, and one day invited anyone in the N.A.C.B. to test his knowledge.

" Well," said somebody, " what is " to live " in French ? "

" Vivre," he said.

" And what's the French for ' to die ? ' " came next.

" Aujourd 'hui ! " was the reply.

A pre-war recruit named Featherstonhaugh was being fitted out with his free issue on enlistment of Clothing and Necessaries. Now, as the recruit's name was a lengthy one and as the space for signature at the foot of the Free Issue (H1179) is very small it was necessary for him to write very small in order to get the whole of his name in the space provided.

The Q.M.S. thought it would be as well to remind the lad of this and said to him—Look here my lad, sign here, (pointing out the space to him), and write very small. The recruit promptly wrote—" Very Small."

The Q.M.S. said something Very Large.

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Canterbury.
Tel. 21 X.

Study the Rules.

IN the January *Dragon* publication was given to a specimen examination paper on the rules of Association Football. This we follow up by quoting from *The Cologne Post* some recent incidents in the field of play, in which difficulty or doubt arose in the interpretation of these rules; and we would welcome for publication other such incidents relating to any game, as not only are these both interesting and amusing, but also most helpful in the study of how the rules of play should be applied when exceptional circumstances arise.

SOME INCIDENTS.

In a recent match on The Rhine a player ran off the field to avoid being offside and several amongst the spectators were under the impression that the player should have been sent off for leaving the field of play without the referee's consent and that Sergt. Millen broke the laws of the game by running off the pitch. Such, however was not the case. The law they referred to was not framed to include such incidents. If it implied observance strictly to the letter, then a player who retrieves a ball from touch or is charged over the line during the course of the game has committed an offence.

A case on similar lines to the above took place at a match before the war. Aston Villa was one of the teams concerned and at centre they played Happy Harry Hampton, the "Wellington Whirlwind." Hampton was in his glory that day and, repeatedly following up, caused the opposing goalie some anxious moments. During one of his bursts Hampton tore at the custodian who was in possession, and attempted to charge him into the net. The keeper, however, evaded the rush and Hampton finished up in the corner of the net.

He stayed there watching the exciting tussle before the goal. The keeper had only partially cleared the leather, and it fell at one of Hampton's colleague's feet. He tricked one defender and shot into the opposite corner of the net to that in which Hampton lay. The goal counted. Had Hampton come out he was offside and the referee ruled that the keeper was in no way interfered with by the "Villan," so that a legitimate goal was scored.

Another interesting incident took place in a recent match between the 29th Batt. R.G.A. and the 4th Worcesters. A free kick for carrying was given against the custodian of the Gunners, and his colleagues immediately began to pack their goal. The Gunner custodian, however, showed that he was better acquainted with the laws than his fellow players. A goal cannot be scored direct from a free kick given against a goalkeeper for carrying, and he immediately ordered his charge to be cleared. This was done and he himself kept beside the post, thus leaving Sergt. Kent, who took the kick, no chance of cannoning the ball into the net off the keeper. The only course open to the kicker was to attempt to cannon the ball off one of the players standing almost in a line with the ball. He essayed but the leather rebounded in the opposite direction to that required and the danger was cleared.

THE date by which the officers of a unit are required to provide themselves with mess dress may, at the discretion of the Commanding Officer be extended for a period not exceeding twelve months, *i.e.*, **until 1st January, 1923.**

Hints for Athletes.

IT will be remembered that last month when dealing with racing on the track we threw out a few hints as to the most opportune moment to "Pass a Man" and "when to make your effort." This month we give some further tips which we hope will be found useful to the coming athlete.

LOOKING ROUND.

This is a bad fault, and in sprint races often fatal. It should not be the man behind that worries the runner, but the man in front. The effort of looking round is to shorten the stride and put the runner off his balance, besides restricting the breathing if the head is turned too far. This is *most important* in sprint races where the slightest movement of the head affects the speed.

PASSING UP.

All races should be run at least five yards further than the tape. Again this is more important in sprints than in long races, but the writer has seen even a three mile race lost because the first man, being very done and thinking he was a comfortable winner, eased up and allowed the second man, who had come up wide of him, to breast the tape first.

RELAY RACING.

Several yards advantage can be gained by the systematic training of the runners of a team in handing over the baton; 10 yards are allowed for handing over, and the trainer must consider this 10 yards very fully. If a half-miler is running, his pace is slow compared to a 220 yards pace, and in such a case the 220 yards man must take over as near as possible from the back mark, this getting his team the advantage of running the extra 10 yards at a greater speed. Similarly if a half-miler is taking over from a 220 yards man he should take over as far up as possible, so that the team may again have the advantage of the speed of the 220 yards man.

THE CORRECT HAND-OVER.

In the actual handing over of the baton a yard can be saved by the correct hand over. The runner should hold the baton vertical with the major portion of the baton above his hand. The man who is to take it must stand leaning well forward with his arm well back and the palm of his hand facing the coming runner. When the latter is within three yards, the fresh runner begins to move, still leaving the rear hand behind. The incoming runner places the top of the baton in the palm of the fresh runner's hand and continues to run until the baton is safely gripped by the fresh runner.

[*Next month we will deal with the question of clothing and shoes. Ed.*]

Some Maxims.

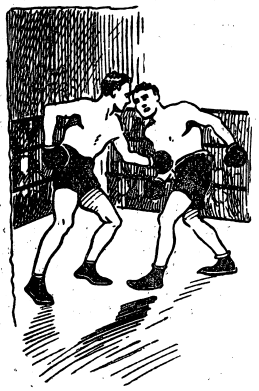
Even the best of women will tidy up your desk unless you are very careful.

Women are like chess-problems—one either mates in so many moves, or fails in their solution.

If the sun always shone we should never have seen the stars.

Your first thought when you get a slice of good luck should be of some one with whom to share it—me for choice.

Boxing in the Services.



TO continue the history of the Royal Navy and Army Boxing Association which was formed in 1911, the Navy and Army Championships were held at Portsmouth towards the end of that year, and in April, 1912, the Army held their Championships at Aldershot. During the whole of this season the referees were slowly but surely eliminating the clinching and holding which had become so pronounced in the professional world, and had crept into the Services. Certain sections of the Press poured the greatest contempt on this work.

"ON PARADE" REFEREEING.

They jeered at what they called the "on parade" type of refereeing. They were quite unable to see that the only method of obtaining real clean boxing was to allow no holding or clinching of any sort or description. The methods of the civilian referee in professional fights, which consisted of constant warnings, threats, or appeals, had obviously failed to keep boxing clean, and the very strict refereeing adopted by the Services was the only suitable course. As the season progressed, the boxing became cleaner and cleaner. It was quite obvious that the average Service boxer had no wish to hold, but many of them had become used to weak civilian referees who would give repeated cautions, but seldom give the penalty. If one boxer started holding, the other was bound to retaliate. But now the Service boxer began to gain faith in the Service referee; he knew that his opponent would not be allowed to take an advantage over him by unfair means, and that it would not be necessary for him to descend to the same tactics to get quits with his opponent. Although some sections of the Press had condemned the Association, others had given us great support. By the end of the season the Association had convinced nearly all its enemies, and by the beginning of the next season many enthusiastic accounts appeared in the Press relating to the work and success of the R.N. and A.B.A.

SCORED OFF ITS OWN BAT.

The R.N. and A.B.A. can be said in fact to have scored off its own bat despite the opposition it received at birth, and the main reasons for its success are:—

(i) That it has kept purses and money prizes within normal limits.

(ii) That it has set its face against long-winded contests, and has limited the rounds to half-a-dozen.

(iii) That it has stipulated foa officers as referees at all Tournaments held under R,N. and A.B.A. Rules.

THE DURATION OF THE BOUT.

The limitations of the duration of contests as a principle making for the betterment of the sport need scarcely be laboured. Indeed, the principle has commended itself to professional circles, where, as in the Services, it is recognised that there are limitations to human endurance, and that if boxing is to be always merry and bright, and long, dismal expositions of the art of clinching are to be avoided, then bouts of from six to ten rounds are the only contests in which these results will be obtained.

(To be continued)

For the Hockey Player.

WE are indebted to Capt. Eric Green for being able to give the following valuable hints for hockey players. They are taken from his article in the handbook issued by the Army Hockey Association.

EQUIPMENT.

Equipment is all important, and the question of the weight of a stick requires study. Generally speaking the best weight for backs is 23—24 ozs. and for halves and forwards 22 ozs. Select one with spliced cane handle, and before use oil the blade with linseed oil for a few days at least, and always oil it after playing in the wet. Boots should be as light as possible for forwards, with protection for the instep and ankles. Shin guards should always be worn and the best plan is to cut off straps and place them inside the stockings.

TEAM WORK.

Combination amongst the Team as a whole as compared to the "hard-hitting" and "hit and rush methods." is the vital factor for success, and towards obtaining this, the following hints may be useful:—

The backs should cover one another's movements when tackling a forward, so that if the right back goes out to tackle the left wing, the left back should be ready to nip in and intercept a pass to the centre, should the right back fail to check him,; or vice versa for an attack from the right wing.

HALVES DUTIES.

Halves should follow up their forwards closely so that they can place them in possession again if they are checked. The wing halves duties are to mark the outside men mainly, and the centre half and two backs are generally supposed to check the inside forwards. A great fault of backs and halves is dribbling and not passing quickly to a well placed forward, thereby giving the opposing defence the opportunity to cut off the forwards. A quick crisp pass to the forwards enables them to get going quickly,

Another important point for the defence is to tackle without hesitation and not to hedge back towards the circle. Worry a forward as much as possible and make him pass on every possible occasion.

THE FORWARDS.

Forwards should not think they are there to be spoonfed by the halves. They must tackle back and put themselves in a position for the halves to get in a pass to them and not expect the half to make all their openings. Wing forwards must watch closely that they do not get off-side, and as a general rule should centre about the 25 yards line if a suitable opportunity occurs, but they must exercise their own discretion to a great extent.

[*Some further hints will be given next month. Ed.*]

Don't forget that if you have anything to sell, or if there is anything you want to buy, we will be glad to meet your requirements in The Dragon free of all charge. And if there is anything you want to know, why not drop us a line?

How I was captured.

MAKE certain of obtaining the March issue of The Dragon which will contain the story of how Sergt. P. J. Macmahon of the 2nd Batalion, was captured by the Germans.

The Territorials.

THE 4th Battalion can be said to be pushing along being about 636 strong on paper, losing some here and gaining some there. The official amalgamatlon is completed, but there are many whom it is difficult to discover to state their wishes. This difficulty arises from the fact that every man in both the 4th and late 5th Battalion has to sign a transfer Form to the "New Battaliou of 4/Buffs," which is an immense affair with a limited Staff.

In Brief.

We hope to retain the services of C.S.M. Potter and Rylott in the Weald of Kent.

Capt. H. G. James has been laid up with "flu" but gradually picking up, we look forward to seeing him shortly amongst us again.

It is hoped to hold a Regimental Tour near Chilham for officers 4/Buffs on the last Sunday in February.

2/Lt. R. S. Poile begins a course of instruction at The Depot on January 20th.

We tremble at the threat of the economy Axe. If the Army is not immune we feel sure that an inexpensive and efficient National Second Line Army will suffer in proportion! Another blow will knock him out altogether.

Congratulations to O.C. "B" Company on the success of his whist drive. The material results of which brightened many a Home at Xmas.
[*We should much have liked to have received an account of this. Ed.*]

Nine officers and 154 Men have come to us from the Weald, and we are glad and proud to have the welcoming of such a splendid contingent of 5/Buffs who are always Buffs and never mind the Battalion number.

The Sittingbourne Company.

Having had a holiday for three weeks, and only recommenced drills on the 12th January, news is scarce this month. Prior to Christmas our Bounties were paid. In regard to sport we have not yet been successful in obtaining a football ground, but we recently arranged a match between our local team of Buffs captained by Pte. Watson, and a team from Milton. In this match we suffered defeat but hope to do better next time.

5th Buffs' Dinner at Cranbrook.

The Weald of Kent detachment of the new Amalgamated Battalion of the 4th and 5th Buffs held a dinner at the George Hotel, Cranbrook, on Saturday evening. An excellent spread was provided by the host, Mr. Lucas, to which just upon 150 sat down. The tables were resplendent with the many beautiful trophies of the battalion. Colonel J. Body, D.S.O., presided, and was supported by Major Burns, Major Birley, D.S.O., Captain T. B. Cheesman, Captain Braun, Captain Hawkins, M.C., Lieutenant H. Alexander, Lieutenant Winch, Lieutenant Reeves, Lieutenant Boning and Lieutenant-Commander A. Cheesman, R.N. The toast of the King was submitted from the chair.

The health of the new detachment was proposed by Lt.-Col. Body, in a speech which received a great reception, and to which Major Burns responded. Both of these officers recalled many incidents of the late war in which the old 5th Battalion played such a glorious part, and referred to the great reputation they had gained.

"I have seen you go into action with only one ration for three days, and never heard you grouse once" said Col. Body, and then he added, that what had always been said of the old Weald of Kent Battalion was "The men of that Battalion never let you down," and on that account he felt sure that the detachment of 156 who were going over to the new 4th Battalion would play a very large part in making that Battalion a great success.

In the course of the evening some excellent songs were contributed by Captain Braun, who the Chairman remarked had served with them in India and Mesopotamia, and he considered it a great compliment that he had come there, and given them so much pleasure that evening. Mr. Owles, of Tunbridge Wells, sang a number of capital songs, and others who contributed to the harmony were Corporal Streeter, Pte. Williams and Pte. Maddocks. Mr. Morley Cottrell, of Tunbridge Wells, ably accompanied. A most enjoyable evening terminated with the singing of the National Anthem and cheers for Colonel Body, the Adjutant and the officers of the 5th Buffs.

"C" (Weald) Company.

There is not much to record this month. We have been in a state of rather suspended animation since the events recorded in the last number. In the meanwhile we have been making preparations for the new season's work. Drills have been resumed in each Platoon area. We hope that everyone will take the opportunity thus afforded to put in all the drills possible, and qualify themselves for the full bounty at the end of the season. Don't forget that every drill performed is a shilling in credit, and counts towards the full bounty, which can only be earned by attending the maximum number of 50 drills. The bounty is relatively more worth having now that times, alas, are not so prosperous as they once were.

Arrangements are now almost complete for the supply of *Dragons* by appointed Territorial agents in each Platoon area. Support them and your Regimental paper by becoming regular subscribers. It is only 6d. a month.

All ranks will wish to heartily congratulate Lieut. C. A. Winch on his recent engagement.

Territorial Force War Medal.

An Army Order cancels the condition that those otherwise eligible for the grant of the Territorial Force War Medal must have been passed as physically fit for service overseas between 4th August and 30th September, 1914 both dates inclusive.

The Medal is now available to all members of the Territorial Force and Territorial Force Nursing Service who were serving with the Force on 4th August 1914 or had completed not less than 4 years service with the Force before that date and rejoined on or before 30th September 1914; provided they undertook on or before this latter date to serve outside the United Kingdom; actually served outside the United Kingdom between 5th August 1914 and 11th November 1918; and did not qualify for the "1914" Star or "1914–15 Star."

Army Point-to-Point Races.

BY permission of Major L. A. Jackson, M.F.H., the Army point-to-point steeplechases this year will take place in the Garth country, Monday, March 27th being the date fixed. There will be a grand Military light-weight race, open to horses five-years-old and upwards belonging to officers now serving in the Regular Army, Navy, or Air Force; a heavy-weight race under similar conditions; ; a chargers' race, for Government chargers hired previous to February this year by officers now serving in the Regular Army, that have never been placed first, second, or third in any steeplechase or flat race under the recognised rules of steeplechasing or flat racing (point-to-point, regimental, hunt, or Rhine Army races excepted); a Past and Present race for horses belonging to officers now serving, or who have held permanent commissions in the Regular Army, Navy, or Air Force.

Entries will close on Monday, March 13th, to the Brigade Major, 4th Cavalry Brigade, Canterbury.

An Open Letter.

To Lt.-Col. Dunstan, Commanding 4th Bn. The Buffs.

THE following open letter has reached us for publication from Mesopotamia. We feel sure that Lt.-Col. Dunstan, in fact all ranks of the 4th Battalion, will gladly respond to the appeal made by letting us have a steady flow of Territorial copy of all kinds. Here is the letter :—

Sir,

I have the honour to request that you favour the readers of that "Big Bond of Friendship," The Dragon with your recollections, chiefly with regard to the old Cadet Battalion The Buffs. On reading my *Dragon* here in Mespot, I wonder what has happened to those Boys (of whom I am one) you turned into Soldiers and Sailors in that tumble down Drill Hall at Margate.

The result of your hard work, during the time you spent with the Battalion, has, I know, borne great fruit, Old Boys holding positions in all branches of the Services. Cannot communication with them be obtained Sir? and incidentally at the same time more readers of *The Dragon*?

To those who are overseas, I am sure a copy of the "Family Records," *The Dragon*, (after all said and done, all Buffs belong to one family—the Esprit-de-Corps). would be greatly appreciated.

It is "increased circulation" the Editor dreams of, and his dreams are being realized, but he would like to see still bigger sale numbers.

I remember your "Military Nights" in pre-war days to obtain Recruits, fine organization. Now Sir, how about *The Dragon*? Some recollections, "Bones of Contention," and suggestions from the same place will take one, if not all, the lines of care from our Editor's face.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,
Ex "Cadet."

Amara.
11/11/21.

The Skipper.

THE Skipper—The Skipper!
He hits it every time
I knew him as a Captain
But now he's much more fine.

His shout —it roused the boys up
And made them brace their knees
But being small of stature
On a horse was better pleased.

Who is the "Skipper," now you ask?
And rightly too, I guess,
He's Lt.-Col. Dunstan—of Cadet Bn. fame
Yes a Buff, and nothing less.

Bright of eye—Fierce at times
He won the hearts of all his boys
Though woe betide, if ragged lines
Marched passed him once, you'd hear a noise.

Each lad was taught to Soldier
And other things as well
He turned em! out in hundreds
(And they gave old Jerry Hell).

As a "boy" of his I try to show
I've not forgotten soldiering taught
I owe you much—and others to
Good luck Sir—From Mespot—Don't Halt.
"Ex Cadet."

A Doubtful Compliment.

Scene.—After Commanding Officers Saturday Inspection.

Adjutant (to very old Major Commanding Company). Sir! Your Company was marvellous, I can't understand how you do it!

Major. Not bad. Eh?

Adjutant. Of course you have a first class Company Sergeant-Major!!!

Exit Major!

Auto Suggestion.

SOME of you may scoff at the idea, but it is at least worth a trial. You have noticed the accounts of the auto suggestion cures in the daily papers. Dr. Coné says that if people tell themselves they are well, they *will* be well; and recommends invalids to hang on the walls the motto "Every day I am getting better and better. "That this auto-suggestion idea is not getting the attention it merits, I am convinced, and I feel I ought to suggest one or two ways in which it could be made really useful.

To start with, we could do away with all the hospital staff and their horrible bottles of *mist alba*,—etc., with the aid of such notices as "Day by day the canteen grows nearer" or "Every breath I take, avoids a number nine," hung up in a conspicious place in the barrack rooms.

The idea in fact is worthy of extension, and suitable mottoes might be offered to various folk as presents, such as one reading "Every day I get kinder and kinder" to the Sergeant Major; or "They must have their beer stronger and stronger" to the directors of the N.A.A.F.I.; while nothing could be nicer for a Sergeant's bunk than "*Tour les jours, vive l'amour*" or words to that effect.

We might even place one on the Cricket pitch "Every day I get less weedy." What a lot of trouble would be saved.

I'm going to have a try myself with "Every week I'll win the sweep," though apparently somebody has forestalled me there. I am going to stick one on the credit side of my bank book, "Every day I get bigger and bigger" and see what effect it has.

O. M.

Some Soccer Maxims.

Play the game and not the man.

Don't stand in the goalmouth appealing for a foul and let your opponents score; play to the whistle.

Forwards should always try to draw the opponents' defence, and then swing the ball over to an unmarked player.

The best means of defence is attack.

Let spectators shout; your job is to get on with the game.

Play with your head as well as with your feet.

A ball in the net is worth two at your toe.

The great art of success in defence is good anticipation; but in forward play it is in preventing anticipation.

Your Service Record.

Orders for binding The Dragon can be now placed with the Editor in accordance with one or other of the following alternatives—

THE THREE ALTERNATIVES.

1. Where readers supply us with their own Dragons: 4/- post free.
2. Where the complete set of Dragons published in 1921 is supplied from our office: 10/- post free.

   NOTE.—The number of complete sets is strictly limited, and orders in this instance will be dealt with strictly in rotation as received.
3. Covers only, 2/6 post free.

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A Challenge from Amara.

BY 'H.B. 70."

ON the 31st October the Sergeants of the 2nd Battalion entertained to dinner The Rev. Col. J. T. Hales, O.B.E., Principal (C. of E.) Chaplain to the Mesopotamia Expeditionary Force, an event which is referred to in the Sergeants' Mess Notes for this month. During the evening a remark was dropped about the amount of service held by those present, and the competition was keen as to who could " Bob " the other down.

Now we of the Sergeants' Mess of the 2nd Battalion feel justly proud of the individual and total service of our members, a pride, which, I think, is substantiated by giving the following particulars of the service of those who were actually present at the dinner, and of those marked with an asterisk whom duty kept away.

OUR RECORD.

No.	RANK.	NAME.	SERVICE. Years.	M'ths.
1	R.S.M.	Andrews	19	—
2	B.M.	Hewitt*	30	9
3	R.Q.M.S. (O.R.)	Edwards	21	1
4	Q.M.S.	Ings	18	8
5	C.S.M.	Guerin	15	10
6	,,	Vincer	17	4
7	,,	Cook*	17	5
8	,,	Simon	7	8
9	C.Q.M.S.	Austin	15	3
10	,,	Blackman...	15	1
11	,,	Upson	20	6
12	,,	Slender	14	8
13	Cr.-Sgt.	Sayer	13	10
14	,,	Tong	11	10
15	Pioneer Sgt.	Goldfinch	14	9
16	Sgt.	Ambrose*...	14	5
17	,,	Howard	12	9
18	,,	Smith*	11	—
19	,,	Deeks	14	3
20	,,	Mannering*	17	5
21	,,	Freeman	13	4
22	,,	Coaster	12	2
23	Sgt.-Major Cook	Webb*	16	11
24	Sgt.	Gifford*	6	11
25	B/Sgt.	Herbert*	16	1
26	M.G. Sgt.	Dennis	12	11
27	Sgt.	Hook	12	5
28	Transport Sgt.	Dowse	14	5
29	Sgt.	Richards*...	6	5
30	,,	Ongley*	9	—
31	,,	Bigg*	13	5
32	,,	Whittingham	14	—
33	,,	Wilkins	17	11
34	Sig. Sgt.	Hamblin	13	9
35	Sgt.	Petley	7	3
36	,,	Warner	17	2
37	,,	Ross	7	2
38	Sgt. Dmr.	O'Dell	15	5
39	Sgt.	MacMahon	21	—
40	Sgt. (O.R.C.)	Ricketts*	7	2
41	Sgt.	Shoobridge*	7	2
42	,,	Stewart	6	5
43	,,	Joy	9	10
44	,,	Johnson	6	6
45	L/Sgt.	Smith	7	1
46	,,	Cornwell*	10	8
47	,,	George	5	9
48	,,	Trelevan*...	7	—
49	,,	Fawsett*	7	8
50	,,	Robinson	9	4
51	,,	Gover	4	6
52	,,	Hollis	7	4

Grand Total—667 years 7 months.
Average Service—12 years 10 months.

This is up to Sunday, November 6th. In addition to the above we have attached, Armourer S/Sgt. Jackson A.O.C. with 17 yrs. 9 months to his credit and Sgt. Instr. Redshaw A.E.C. with 15 yrs. but we will play the game, and not include them, much as we would like to, if for no other reason that as " pals " they are Buffs.

AND THE CHALLENGE.

It would be interesting to have similar records of the Depot, 1st Battalion, and other Units. Only those Members actually on the strength of their respective Battalion to be included (the Depot for instance is not to include Dizzy Burton and one or two more " Wallahs " who " drop in " their Mess *every* morning for a wet. Also no attempt (where an " old sweat " finds himself in a low average) is to be made to wangle things by saying I done " umpteen " years in such and such a Battalion.

I guess reader you think we are " dishing " it out, but it's open to competition, so dig up your " old sweats" all of you, and let's hear from you. Why dear old Depot it's surprising the number you've got tucked away near the R.E. Yard.

Powder and Shot.

(Some Humorous Snapshots from Life.)

BY BERNARD BROWN.

YOU ask me, Mr. Editor, if I can recollect any incidents of a humorous nature during my Army Career in the late War. I think I can. As a matter of fact life in any sphere is full of humour if one only looks on the bright side.

I remember well our first regimental Concert which took place in the drill hall at Blankhampton early in '15. Corporal Jones presided at the piano and played all the accompaniments. Private Smith, a new recruit, volunteered a song. He went to the pianist, hummed over the tune and then commenced to warble. After he had sung a few notes it was obvious to all that there was something wrong somewhere. He went to the pianist and again hummed the tune and a second start was made. Again terrible discords. A third time pianist and vocalist consulted and at last a third start was made. After Private Smith had sung a few notes and the noise was worse than before Corporal Jones turned round from the piano and exclaimed " Smith, First time I tried you on the white notes, second time on the black notes, and then last time on the black and white mixed. You must be singing between the damn cracks."

* * * *

I recollect another recruit who went to the Quartermaster's Stores on the second day he was in camp, carrying a pair of puttees. Meekly addressing the Q.M.S. he said :—" If you please, Sir, could you change these for another pair ? "

" Certainly not " was the reply he received. " Why do you want to change them ? "

" Because Sir," the " rookie " answered " the beastly things are too tight."

* * * *

It was one morning we were being entertained to a Lecture on Musketry by an officer. After he had expounded at length on the Rifle he proceeded to ask a few questions :—

" Now Private Blank—What is a fine sight ? " Private Blank—(who had paid constant visits to the Orderly Room with " cap off ") " Please Sir, a Boat-load of Sergeant Majors drowning."

* * * *

A friend of mine who was stationed at the Tower of London and who had acted as Sergeant of the Guard for a considerable time and had got heartily " fed up " vouches for the following :—One day an old lady approached him and asked " It was in this place that the two princes were murdered, was it not Sergeant ? Can you tell me which is the bloody Tower ? " Sergeant :—" All the lot of it mum."

Shooting in 1922.

MUSKETRY training generally and the Army Rifle Championship meeting of the National Rifle Association particularly have been greatly retarded, since the war, in consequence of the employment of a large body of troops in Ireland and on the Rhine. Fortunately the immediate withdrawal of troops from Ireland will enable the rifle organisations to arrange this year's programmes and the Army musketry courses will take their proper place in the annual training scheme.

The Army Rifle Association championship meeting at Pirbright had to be abandoned last year, because it was impossible for units on duty in Ireland to grant leave to men to enter for the competitions. This decision detrimentally affected the Bisley meeting by lessening the competitors from the Army. The annual meeting of the Army Rifle Association will shortly take place, when arrangements will be made for this year's programme.

PRIZES VALUE £7000.

The Bisley meeting will begin on Monday, July 10th, and close on Saturday, July 22nd, and the prizes offered will amount in value to over £7,000. The Council of the National Rifle Association have resolved that the rifles and sights to be used in this year's competitions shall be the same as last year, but that next year only the short rifle will be used in all competitions. The shooting for the King's Prize will be confined to the short (or service) rifle, but in order to fire the final stage at 900 and 1,000 yards, the aperture sight and the sling are admissible as "aids." The conditions for Queen Mary's Prize are practically the same as those which govern the Army championship competition. This contest is divided into three practices—snap shooting, fire with movement, and deliberate shooting. The rifle used is the short pattern, and no extraneous devices, such as the aperture sight or sling, are allowed. The prize lists generally have been lengthened and equalised, and entrance fees for some of the events have been reduced.

Perhaps the most notable innovation is the introduction of a meeting for Novices. The National Small-bore meeting will also be held at Bisley this year. There are the usual attractive competitions for the public schools.

REVOLVER PRACTICES.

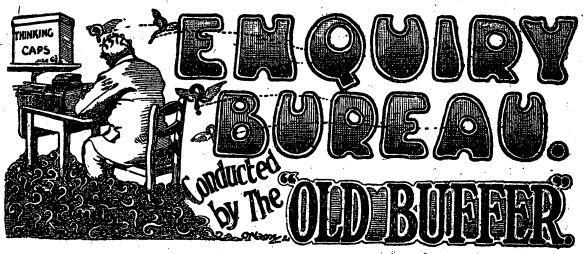
A change has been made in the revolver practices. The method aimed at in the new system of training is that of shooting instinctively by sense of direction with extreme speed. The speed of firing one or more effective shots will be a more important criterion for service conditions than the closeness of grouping of the shots. It is claimed that this sense of direction method gives this speed combined with sufficient accuracy.

Nursery Rhymes Up-to-date.

TOM, Tom, the piper's son,
He learned to play when he was young
Now the only things that he can play
Are jazz drums, tins, and cymbals gay.

Tom with his motor horn shows such skill
That those who hear him can never keep still
Whenever they're near they begin to dance
And the flappers drop their pilots and after him prance.

O.M.



WHEN was *The Dragon* founded, and who have been its Editors, asks a correspondent. To this query we are unfortunately not able to give a full reply, there being no complete set of old *Dragons* at The Depot, a fact which persuades us to express the hope here, that if any of our readers have any back numbers of *The Dragon*, they will either lend them to us, or make a present of them to the *Dragon* Office.

Thanks, however, to Capt. Steele now living in Guernsey, and who has kindly lent us his bound copy of the 1895 and 1896 *Dragons*, we are able to give the following information, which we hope our readers will be able to supplement.

The Dragon was first published in Calcutta on the 15th September, 1874, and registered at the Post Office as *The Dragon* newspaper. The 100th number was published in August 1895 at which time its circulation was close on 1,300 monthly. Until its removal to the Depot at the beginning of last year, the paper had always been a 1st Battalion publication, and in the edition January 1897, we find the following record of its late Editors and sub-Editors.

Editors.

1886, Lt.-Col. Blaksley; 1887, Major Newnham-Davis; 1888-9, Lieut. Eales; 1889-90, Lieut. Parry; 1890, Capt. Blackburn; 1890-1, Major Ommaney; 1891, Capt. Tylden-Pattenson; 1891-3, Lieut. Eales; 1893, Lieut. Huckle; 1893-4, Lieut. Perkins; 1894, Major Moody; 1895, Lt. and Qr.-Mr. Cumber; 1895, Major Ommaney; 1896, Major Moody; and 1897 Capt. Eales.

Sub-Editors.

1886-8, Qr.-Mr. Sgt. Cumber; 1888-9, Paymaster-Sgt. Wilson; 1889-90, L/Sgt. Baker; 1890-4, Schoolmaster Steele; 1894, Sgt. Winstanley; 1895-7, Schoolmaster Steele.

Our information is admittedly very incomplete, but we hope it may provide the basis by which the full story of the paper may be brought up to date.

SOME QUERIES ANSWERED.

Mr. G. W. Brown, of 67 Edith Road, S.E. 25 writes :—Do you happen to know what has become of Major M. S. Williams? I should like to write him if I can get his address. Possibly he does not subscribe to ye old Duck.

[*We should also like this address. Ed.*]

A. S. (Dover) :—The date of the next examination for First Class Certificates of Education and for the Special Army Certificate will be 4th April next. These examinations under the new syllabus will be held henceforth not in February but on a date in April to be notified annually, and on the first Tuesday in October in each year.

R. L. P. (Ramsgate) :—Over seven million British War and Victory Medals have now been issued, the individual totals being as follows :—

British War Medals : United Kingdon, 2,959,240, The Dominions, 830,150, Native Labour Corps, 103, 813.

Victory Medals :—United Lingdom 2,951,047, Dominions 655,960.

In addition to the above, the following issues of decorations in respect of services rendered during the period 5th August, 1914, and 31st December, 1921, have been made :—

M.C.'s 39,665, D.C.M.'s 24,021, M.M.'s 26,749, Clasps 1914 Star 131,549, Africa General Service Medal 5,151, India General Service Medal 732.

[*Queries of all kinds are always welcome. Ed.*]

Officers.

The following Sec. Lts. to be Lts. :—J. M. Pritchard, O.B.E. (Aug. 27), with seny. Aug. 24, 1916, and precedence next below T. H. L. Turner; W. G. Cass (Dec. 17).

Captain J. B. Sharp retires receiving a gratuity (December 3rd, 1921) and is granted the rank of Major.

Sec. Lt. C. W. H. Welldon resigns his commn. (Jan. 7), and retains the rank of Sec. Lt.

Capt. A. S. Lowe resigns his commn. (Jan. 11), and retains rank of Capt.

Sec. Lt. L. A. L. Firmin, 5th Buffs is scd., whilst serving with the R.A.F. (Dec. 29, 1921).

Captain L. P. Causton has been posted to the 1st Battalion on the disbandment of the 8th Cameronians, of which he was adjutant.

Promoted Captain :—Lieut. E. B. Backhouse, 2nd Buffs.

The Depot.

ARRIVALS.

6279341 Pte. S. Jones, 6278873 Pte. A. Goddard, 6278639 Pte. W. Wills reported at Depot 20/12/21, on discharge from R. Victoria Hospital, Netley.

6278063 C.S.M. P. Stroud, from 5th Bn. The Buffs.

6279846 Sgt. Tlr. J. Bastien, rejoined Depot 9/1/22 on ceasing to do duty at the Cavalry School, Netheravon.

6278157 Sgt. H. Howard, M.M., from 2nd Bn. to undergo Educational course.

DEPARTURE.

6278157 Sgt. H. Howard, M.M., proceeded to W.O. School of Education, Shorncliffe, 12/1/22.

PROMOTIONS.

Acting Corporals :—6278942 J. Baker and 6280503 A/Cpl. F. Sands.

Paid L/Cpls. :—6278375 Pte. C. Ingram.

Unpaid Rzcruits L/Cpls. :—No. 6281402 Pte. T. Isted, No. 6281406 Pte. W. Martin., No. 6281289 Pte. A. Barrell.

ENLISTMENTS.

Boy J. E. A. Richos, (Attested for 2nd Bn.)

Boy H. Rawlings (enlisted for 2nd Bn.)

DISCHARGES.

6278115 Sgt. W. Geard, 6280149 Sgt. H. Stace, 6278774 Pte. L. Rowe, 6279356 Pte. A. Saunders, 6279430 Pte. R. Reynolds, 6278197 Dr. J. Stevens, 6278807 Pte. T. Baker, 6278473 Pte. H. Maddox, 6279922 Pte. T. Sporle, 6279263 Pte. F. Cripps, 6278137 Pte. M. Murdock, 6279687 Pte. F. Bishop.

RE-ENLISTMENT.

Pte. W. H. Amos (late 734347,235 Bty. R.F.A.)

RECRUITS.

Pte. W. J. Broadbridge, Pte. S. J. Jackson, Pte. W. Inge, Pte. G. T. Mannering, Pte. V. P. Worth, Pte. T. W. Hall, Pte. I. M. Puttock, Pte. W. A. Whall, Pte. F. E. Smith, Pte. P. Walker, Pte. L. F. Horne, Pte. M. Hyland, Pte. F. C. Aldridgo, Boy A. Dealo, Pte. F. Quelleron, Pte. L. H. Cole.

The 1st Battalion.

G.C. BADGE.

6279920 Boy P. Andrews, Granted 1st G.C. Badge, 13/11/21.

DISCHARGES.

6281181 Pte. P. Ryall, 6280001 Pte. F. Edmunds, 6279854 Pte. H. Boulter.

TRANSFER TO RESERVE.

6278444 Pte. F. Acott.

INCREASE.

6280373 Pte. W. Semaine Arrived 2nd Battalion, 30/11/21.

APPOINTMENTS.

Paid L/Cpls. 4/11/21 :—6278296 L/C. C. Derry, 6279250 L/C. A. Downey, 6280388 L/C. F. Mills, 6280013 L/C. J. Woollard, 6280014 L/C. F. Taylor.

Unpaid L/Cpls., 1/2/21 :—6279906 Pte. C. Hills, 6280191 Pte. G. Eldridge, 6280166 Pte. R. Butcher, 6280075 Pte. G. Brown.

The 2nd Battalion.

PROMOTIONS.

Paid L/Sgt., 1/8/21 :—No. 6278920 Cpl. C. Gover.

Acting Sergeant unpaid, 28/5/21 :—6279503 Cpl. S. Hollis.

Acting L/Sgt. (Unpaid) as Provost Sgt., 14/10/21 :—6278918 Cpl. E. Liston.

Corporal, 1/8/21 :—6278552 L/C. F. Sidwell.

Paid L/Cpls., 1/8/21 :—6278720 A/pd./L/C. H. Hart, 6278689 A/pd. L/C. J. Randall, 6278886 A/pd./L/C. A. Kimber.

Unpaid L/Cpls. :—No. 6278446 Pte. R. Corrigan, 19/7/21, No. 6279197 Pte. C. Peett, 12/9/21.

Ditto 18/10/21 :—6278549 Pte. F. Rowe, 6278556 Pte. J. Rowley, 6279298 Pte. F. Farmer, 6278782 Pte. J. Fielder, 6278793 Pte. E. Lewis, 6278501 Pte. H. Lendrin.

Ditto 19/10/21 :—6279995 Pte. L. Glazier.

To U.K. for Discharge :—6280149 Sgt. H. Stace, 6278115 Sgt. W. Geard,

Invalided to U.K. :—6279019 Sgt. A. Turner, 6279545 L/C. G. Brown.

LEAVE.

Two months to India 18/10/21 :—6279053 Sgt. (O.R.C.) G. Ricketts.

Motoring and 1922.

Intending purchasers of Motor cars, Light cars or Motor bicycles will be well advised to place their orders well in advance of Easter.

And the same applies to those whose cars or motor bicycles require overhauling.

Mr. Elvidge of Wincheap Garage, Canterbury, (Tel: C'bury 381), is able to supply any make of car or motor bicycle, and he offers all purchasers an after-service at moderate rates, and under his own personal supervision.

Agent for the 12 h.p. A.B.C., and the Light Six Studebaker.

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To read our Advertisement on page 36, and to send us as many names and addresses as you possibly can.

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The Dragon

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No. 268. March, 1922. Price Sixpence.

Personalia.

WE feel sure that all our readers will join us in offering H.R.H. Princess Mary and Viscount Lascelles our heartiest congratulations on their marriage, and our sincerest good wishes for the future.

We note that our Colonel-in-Chief, H.M. King Christian of Denmark has been appointed *sergent honoraire* (honorary sergeant) of the 22nd Battallion of the *Chasseurs Alpins*, which occupied Slesvig during the plebiscite.

Many happy returns of the day to General Sir Arthur Paget on his 71st birthday; and may he long continue as Colonel of the Buffs. Here he is still going strong golfing at Cannes.

By kind permission of the Bystander.

The following hearty welcome was extended to the 1st Battalion on their arrival at Shorncliffe by the Corporation of Hythe:—

"This Corporation have instructed me to write and extend to the Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men of the 1st Battalion The Buffs, a hearty welcome to this neighbourhood.

Your Regiment is the County Regiment and one of which this Ancient Borough is proud.

The Borough has watched with deep interest the record of your Regiment since going Overseas in 1914 down to the present time, and the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses are delighted to see that after your long Service in Ireland, you have at last come back to the Old County, and they all trust that your residence in Shorncliffe will be a long and enjoyable one."

Captain R. K. Price has gone to Pau to defend his title as holder of the Coupe de Pau, and later goes on to Bordeaux where he hopes to meet Baerlein, last year's winner at that place. We wish him luck in both events.

His old friends of the 6th and 9th Battalions will be glad to hear of Captain R. W. Williams, who is living at 58 Ashley Gardens and working at the London, Westminster and Parr's Bank in Piccadilly Circus; he is playing regularly for the Casuals in the Isthmian League, and has recently played against both Oxford and Cambridge.

Capt. Williams was formerly in the Sussex Yeomanry and joined the 6th Battalion in March 1915; later he was with the 9th (under Colonel Reith) when it became the 29th Training Reserve Battalion and later still the 52nd Graduated Battalion of the Queen's. In this connection it is interesting to know that the Buff's regimental march was, for a long time after its change of name, played in this battalion

A considerable number of the staff of the London County and Westminster Bank joined the Buffs on the outbreak of war, and this was, no doubt, largely due to the fact that their chairman was Colonel Viscount Goschen. Our readers will, of course, remember that Lord Goschen formerly commanded the 2nd V.B. The Buffs (later known as the 5th Buffs and recently disbanded) of which he afterwards became Honorary Colonel. He rejoined his old battalion on the outbreak of war, as a major, and afterwards raised and commanded the 2/5 Buffs.

We have seen a very cheery letter from Mr. Tom Burke (late no. 8010 Sergeant) who is in the Mayla States Police and quartered at Port Dickson. He left the 2nd Battalion in Singapore, as did several other good fellows, two of whom (Mantle and Dowling) he sees from time to time, whilst other old Buffs out in the Malay States are J. Webb, M.S.M.; F. King; and T. Trevor.

Captain H. W., Jackson, who has been home from Mesopotamia on (sick) leave since August, has been having a lot of trouble with the wound which he received with the 1st Battalion at Radinghem in 1914. He is at Millbank Hospital where he has just undergone an operation and where he expects to be for some time. Curiously enough the officer in charge of Millbank is a son-in-law of Colonel R. S. H. Moody (Lieut. Col. J. F. Martin C. M. G., etc.)

We are sorry to hear rather bad news of our old friend Mr. C. Griggs (late no. 8429 Pte.), who however writes as cheerfully as ever.

Colonel D. F. Lewis has been up in London for a few days from Avening where he lives. He looks very fit and manages to put in two or three days hunting a week.

Mr. A. Gunston (late the Buffs—Crippen draft) is in the Corps of Commissionaires, working at the city office of Messrs. Wm. Clowes and Son, in Stamford Street.

Personalia—*continued.*

We hear that Captain E. Smith has been transferred from the War Office to the India Office, and is now on the permanent establishment.

Another gift recently received by the Regiment takes the form of a map of the Passage of The Douro kindly presented by Lt.-Commander Henry Chamberlain, late R.N.

We hear that Capt. J. C. Page, late of the 6th Battalion, and Lt. D. W. Hendin both expect to get home this summer from W. Africa.

Amongst those who have recently graduated at the Staff College, is Major the Hon. P. G. Scarlett.

We hear of Capt. W. Birrell, having just been apponted secretary of the Kent Area of The Britlsh Legion.

Capt. G. A. Steele, writing from Guernsey, tells us how much he has enjoyed being reminded of the good old times in India, by reading "Harrisonisms" in *The Dragon*, and then goes on to describe the wonderful send-off given to "Joey" on his leaving the Regiment. Here is what he says :—

"The Colonel was a modest man, and intended getting away without fuss of any kind. But the battalion thought otherwise, for, on the news leaking out as to when the Colonel was leaving, the whole battalion (or as many as could possibly get away), led by the band, conducted our dear old C/O to the dockside on the Hooghley. Few of us had escaped "wiggings," at some time or the other, from "Joey," but every one of us recognised the genuine kindness of heart, which lay behind his bluff manner and forcible language.

Capt. Steele, to whom incidentally we are indebted for the loan of a further two old bound copies of *The Dragon*, will be remembered as sub-editor of the Paper for a number of years.

Another to join the ranks of the old Brigade is Col. The Rev. S. G. H. Sargent, Rector of Nonington. Having attained the age limit, he is now placed on the reserved list after having created almost a record for Volunteer Army Chaplains. All those who served with him with the 1st V.B. the Buffs, of which he commanded the Wingham Company as a combatant officer, and later with the 4th Buffs will join in wishing him many years of good health and prosperity.

Another old Buff, who has celebrated his golden wedding is Mr. W. Powsey of Wilmington. Mr. Powsey was born in 1839, and at the age of 15 joined the Buff Militia and was with the Militia Battalion at Malta during the Crimean War, and later, formed one of the guard of honour when Queen Victoria visited Woolwich in 1855. Remarkably active up to the age of 75, when a bicycle ride of 40 miles was as nothing to him, we are now sorry to hear he is a confirmed invalid, and that he lost his wife just a year ago.

We offer our thanks to the Sergeants' Mess at The Depot for kindly advertising *The Dragon* in the programme of their dance on the 27th January.

Congratulations to Major Miles Beevor on his engagement to Miss Phylliss Pennington, daughter of Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Arthur Pennington. Lt.-Col. Pennington is of course a brother of Mrs. McDonald, whilst another of his sisters to marry into the Regiment was Mrs. Eales.

Here is a personalia paragraph sent us from Adisham : "There is an old Buff here, Sergt. A. Simmons, D.C.M. he has "joined up" in married estate since de-mob, and a young Buff-ess quite up to Regimental Standard is seen daily taking the air. Mr. Simmons is employed on the S.E.R. as a plate-layer, at Adisham."

To Mr. A. E. Coveney we extend our best thanks for the thirty and more addresses he has sent us of potential subscribers to the paper, and from amongst whom we have already obtained several new supporters. Others whom we wish to thank for helping us in a similar way are Mr. A. H. Baker, Major Darwall, B. C. Davies. W. M. Towse, E. Burke and H. Greenaway. But why not all of you ?

Congratulations to 6278040 C.S.M. S. J. Pigott and 6278056 C.-Sgt. W. B. Spearpoint on being awarded the Medal for Long Service and Good Conduct by A.C. 443 of 1921.

We now hear of another old Buff in the Ministry of Pensions Hospital at Orpington. This is Mr. J. T. Bishop, late 240270 of the 1/5th Buffs, whom we are sorry to hear is about to undergo still another operation. From this, however, he hopes quickly to recover ; and he tells us that, being a trained nurse and a certified masseur, he would welcome any massage work that any medical man in Kent could put his way.

We are glad to hear from Capt. Bobbie Child that he is now in harness again having joined the caste of the "Maid of the Mountains" for a six months' tour in the provinces.

We would particularly ask our readers, when hearing of Old Buffs in distress, to refer their names to the Hon. Sec. of the Benevolent Fund at Canterbury, this being the quarter which never fails to give the helping hand to genuine cases.

Harry Dudley who relieved Peter Temple as Master Tailor in Kilkenny, and accompanied the 2nd Battalion to S. Africa, is now enjoying a well earned rest in Hounslow, having completed over 32 years' service with The Buffs and Royal Fusiliers. He is an enthusiastic motor cyclist, and, we hear, is not unlikely to pay a surprise visit to The Depot one of these fine days so as to show the Sergeants' Mess how billiards ought to be played.

Major J. W. H. Toynbee, M.C., formerly of the 3rd Battalion of "The Buffs," has relinquished his rank and joined the 5th Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment as a lieutenant.

As we go to Press, we regret very much to hear of the death, on February 15th, of Colonel Sir Herbert Charles Perrott, C.H., C.B., late Lt-Colonel commanding and afterwards Honorary Colonel of the Buffs. Aged 72. A wreath was sent by the 3rd Battn. for the funeral, and was acknowledged by Lady Perrott in the following words :—

> "It was such a very kind thought, and nothing would have pleased him more than that his old Regiment had remembered him. His whole heart was in his Regiment, and his *real* soul with the Service."

Here is the result of the Royal St. George's Golf Club's February monthly medal (1) Major J. Crookenden 93—12, 81 ; (2) Captain J. A. Daniell, late The Buffs 86—2, 84. All of which encourages us to express the

Personalia—*continued.*

hope that the Regiment may be represented in this year's Army Golf Championships.

Captain S. B. Donald has returned from his duties in Ireland, and is now to be found at Union Bank Buildings, Holborn. He promises us some of his experiences.

Mr. S. Martin, Sammy, late Signalling Sergt. of the 2nd Battalion is now to be found at the Crown and Thistle, Northiam, Sussex.

Whilst another old Buff close by in Rye is Mr. Cecil Rhodes, late of the 1st Battalion and who will be remembered as a great adept at hockey.

Mention of one of our old Regimental Signallers recalls to us that Darky Gardner who succeeded Sammy Martin is caretaker at The Drill Hall, Ashford, and is now acting as one of our Representatives.

Tom Tapp, who left the Band of the 2nd Battalion in 1895 runs a Hairdressing and Tobacconist Establishment in Southfields, London. He will be remembered by many old hands as Big Drummer under Bandmaster Kelly and Griffiths.

We are glad to hear of ex-R.S.M. Holloway being in harness again, and all good luck to him in his new venture—a coal business in Canterbury, we hear.

Although this number of *The Dragon* will make its appearance prfor to Major Crookenden handing over command of the Depot, we can not refrain from expressing now how much we shall miss him, and the extent to which we appreciate the enthusiastic support he has always afforded us from the moment we took over the reins of office just over a year ago. And we feel sure that every one at the Depot will join us in wishing him, and his, the best of good luck in the future.

And of course the same good wishes are equally extended to Major and Mrs. Gould, whom we shall miss just as much, and who are leaving us at the same time.

Obituary.

CAPTAIN HARRY SINGLETON.

MANY of our readers will be sorry to hear of the recent death of Mr. Harry Singleton of The Trout Bungalow, Nr. Nottingham road; and of whom Capt. S. Barker writes as follows.

"Singleton joined the O.T.C. in 1915, got his commission and was appointed to The Buffs. Owing to an accident, he was obliged to serve on the staff, during the late war: he served in Palestine and Salonica, and rose to the rank of captain. He was personally known to many Buff Officers, and his reputation as a good soldier and keen sportsman was second to none."

ALFRED JAMES WHITE.

We regret to hear of the passing away after a long and painful illness of No. 1537 Alfred James White, who, born in April, 1861, enlisted in The Buffs in 1877, and was discharged to pension in 1895 whilst serving at the Hythe School of Musketry. He served with the 2nd Battalion in the Zululand campaign, and, later, at Malta, Hong Kong, the Straits Settlements, and India.

Regimental Notabilities.

MAJOR JOHN CROOKENDEN, D.S.O.

Son of the late Col. H. H. Crookenden, R.A.

Born 9th April, 1882; entered R.M.C. Jan., 1900, and was gazetted to the Buffs 8th Jan., 1901. Joined 2nd Battn. at Balmoral, 8th May, 1901, and gained Queen's South African Medal with 5 clasps.

Served with W.A.F.F. in May, 1911; and in the Cameroon Campaign 1914—1916, and was mentioned in despatches; and later served in France and East Africa.

Married Miss I. M. Gay, in July, 1918. One son, Derek, born 11th December, 1920.

Pursuits various.

The 1st Battalion.

SHORNCLIFFE at last! The Battalion moved away from Fermoy in three parties on Friday, January 27th; "C" Coy. and heavy baggage left for Cork at 8 a.m.; "D" Coy. Married Families, and animals, left for the same port at 1 p.m.; and Headquarters and "A" and "B" Coys. left for Rosslaire at 9 p.m.

The lines of least resistance was via Rosslaire and the party that had the good fortune to travel that way reached Shorncliffe on Saturday afternoon. Their experience included a march through London.

120 tons of baggage to hump from the train 400 yards to the ship in a downpour of rain! "C" and "D" Coys. will remember the day at Cork. Commencing work shortly after 2 p.m., it was long after 10 p.m. when the last load found a resting place in the ship. Married families had been comfortably accommodated by 3 p.m.

A Gale blowing outside the harbour prompted the Captain of the ship to remain in port that night and so most enjoyed a well-earned sleep. 7 a.m. on Saturday found the ship moving and a very rough sea journey which will not be dwelt upon ended at Fishguard about 6 p.m.

The Married families, "D" Coy. and animals left by special train at 8 p.m. and travelling all night reached Shornecliffe at 10 a.m. Sunday. "C" Coy. and heavy baggage arrived the same evening.

Shorncliffe at last!

The Rest of The News.

There are several in the battalion who are in danger even now of swooning at the mention of "heavy baggage."

* * * *

When will people learn how to pack so that boxes will not open? Some would be far wiser to pack in smaller boxes which can be easily moved.

* * * *

One very large heavy box on the quay at Cork defied the efforts of several men. Re-inforcements were called for, and when the box was on the move and inclined to be roughly treated, one cheery soul, wet to the skin, shouted, "Steady chaps! This box has got the Colonel's medals in it!"

* * * *

Risborough Barracks are hutments, and it was somewhat of a blow coming to them rather than to one of the more or less palatial barracks around us. But presumably it is not intended that we remain here long.

* * * *

However, it is a joy to be here and amongst our own kith and kin once more. The days of curfew patrol, awaiting picquet, restricted areas etc. are behind us; and, instead, we have a locality of shops plus civility, good roads, buses, cinemas, and—well—readers can guess quite a lot for themselves.

* * * *

Around the barracks are splendid sports ground. On one side is the Stadium Football ground. On another are the Garrison Cricket Ground, Garrison Hockey ground, the Tennis Courts (hard and grass), and quite close is one of the finest Raquets Courts in the country.

The Corporation of Hythe very kindly sent us in a warm letter of welcome to the County and one dear old lady was overheard in a bus to say "Ain't it nice to see the dear old Buffs again." M'Yes!

* * * *

The Battalion is enjoying short leave at the moment of writing. Every man possible is being granted 8 days leave over and above any other period granted.

* * * *

Our congratulations are extended to Mr. R. Harvey Gem who was married on 9th February to Miss Villiers Stuart. May all happiness be theirs.

* * * *

Messrs. Thorne-Thorne and C. J. Robson have been gazetted to the Buffs and posted to our battalion. A welcome is extended to both and we look forward to their assistance on the sports field.

* * * *

Lt. Thorne-Thorne has already made his name in the Amateur Soccer world. An amateur international, a Corinthian and an Isthmian League player, he is a very fast wing forward and has already assisted the battalion in a match versus Argyll and Sutherland Hrs.

* * * *

Lt. Robson is also a soccer player of note having captained Malvern and Sandhurst. But it is as a cricketer that he has specially shone and we shall no doubt be treated to some interesting afternoons on the Garrison Ground. Mr. Robson is also a first-class Racquets player.

* * * *

The Battalion Soccer side journeyed to Aldershot on Saturday 11th February together with about 50 supporters. The tale is told elsewhere. The Argylls triumphed through to the final, and they struggle with the 1st Norfolk Regiments for the Irish Army Cup which we had hoped to see adorning one of our Messes.

* * * *

The Battalion Hockey side tried their mettle against the Depot side on the 4th and got a nasty jar, being beaten 6—2. The side was not the strongest that could be turned out, but the Depot side played well and pace and condition told. Congratulations to them—but wait till they come to us on the 20th inst.

* * * *

Apart from the actual loss of the game, the visit to the Depot was much enjoyed by the Hockeyists who much appreciate the hospitality of all ranks there.

* * * *

The Medal of the British Empire has been awarded to Sgt. F. Barton for services rendered in the land of Sinn Fein. Brave Barton!

The Sergeants' Mess.

Shorncliffe at last and beginning to settle down in a nicely appointed Mess. And when all our pictures, etc., have been put up, it should be very comfortable. Our only social functions up to the present has been a billiard match versus the Sgts. of the East Yorkshire Regt., in which we suffered a rather bad defeat, winning only one game out of the six. This however we hope to reverse in the return match.

We are pleased to welcome Sgt. Curtis back from Hospital, looking none the worse for his recent accident, and also C.S.M. Knight and Sgt. Cox from the Depot. Next month I hope to be able to give the service of the members in response to the challenge from Amara.

Each week we get a visit from some old friend or other, all of whom we are very pleased to see.

The Corporals' Mess.

In my last notes I asked if anyone could solve a certain riddle for me. Well! I have solved it myself. We have moved from Ireland (Cheers) and are at present at Shorncliffe (More Cheers), and at last I might venture to say that everyone is satisfied.

We left Fermoy at various times during 27/1/22 and eventually arrived at Shorncliffe on the 29/1/22 after an uneventful journey, the only item of interest being when a member of the Mess attempted to balance the Sgts. Mess billaird table on his chest. Needless to say he

The 1st Battalion—*continued.*

failed. The rumour is that the Sergeants are claiming damages. But I hope not.

We have a very nice Mess here and as soon as we get settled we hope to be able to entertain our friends on a far better scale than we have been able to do before.

Still being rather out of gear, there is not much news so I will conclude by saying that, if any of our old friends care to come and visit us, we shall be pleased to welcome them at any time.

BUNNY.

A COMPANY.

At last after many rumours, we are able to write these notes in our own home County, and to look back on our days in the new "Free State" as an unpleasant episode which we hope is not capable of being repeated.

Of course the main topic of the past month has been the move. The Company was particularly lucky in travelling with Battalion H.Q. via Rosslare and Fishguard in comparative comfort. By so doing we gained 36 hours in time and had also the interesting experience of marching through London from Paddington to Charing Cross Station. Since then we have spent our time in settling down and going on leave. The additional eight days granted to all ranks is much appreciated.

We have played one Company football game against the details of the Royal West Kent Regiment, and we were perhaps a trifle unlucky on the run of the play in being beaten 2-0. although in actual football value they were the better side.

Our congratulations to L/Cpl. Perry and Pte. James on being chosen to play for the Battalion against the 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in the semi-final round of the Irish Army Cup. Also to Bdsm. Maucer who was reserve on this occasion.

At the moment we are perhaps inclined to see only the bright side of everything. Being stationed in our own County has perhaps g ne to our heads slightly. We don't even mind much about the huts Better a hut in England than a Palace in Ireland! Palatial? Shades of New Barracks "A" and "B" Blocks!

B COMPANY.

There is little to write about this month. Since our arrival at Risborough Barracks our time has been occupied in getting comfortably settled into our new quarters.

We are sorry to lose Pte. Brooks who has been discharged time expired, and glad to have Sgt. Curtis back again from hospital looking none the worse for his recent accident.

Congratulations to Lieut. Gem on his wedding to Miss Muriel Villiers Stuart. The happy event took place in London on the 9th February. And a welcome to Ptes. Burton and Williams who have joined us from the Depot.

Company games have been rather at a standstill of late but we hope to get going again soon and to give a good account of ourselves in our next notes.

C COMPANY.

In the move from Fermoy C Company were greatly to the fore being responsible for the majority of the loading and unloading of the baggage from trains and boat; and great credit was due to all ranks for the work done. As everyone knows, a Battalion's baggage is no small detail, We are now fairly well settled down, and have already made a good start in sport, having beaten the detachment of the 2nd R.W. Kents at football 3-0.

The boys are all very pleased that leave is being given freely, and are taking full advantage of it. It has been a great pleasure to meet so many old "Buffs" since our arrival, and we look forward to meeting many more.

One old "Buff" Snowball Manning had the pleasure of meeting the H.Q. of the Battalion on their arrival at Paddington and marching to Charing Cross with them; they say he was very proud, "chucking a 50" Breezer.

C and D Companies with the Married Families were really the worst off as they had a 48 hours' journey. The sea trip was pretty fair but the Women and children thought it otherwise.

FOOTBALL.

Semi-Final Irish Army Cup.

Playing at Aldershot on Saturday, 11th February, the Battalion met the 2nd Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders in the semi-final of the Irish Army Cup. We welcomed to the team Mr. Thorne-Thorne who has just been posted to us, and right well did he uphold the traditions of his chosen regiment.

Kick off at 14.30, we at once began to press and things looked very rosy, Mr. Thorne-Thorne making repeated dashes up the right wing something like to proverbial Streak of Lightning, and at last, after some twenty minutes play, we were awarded a free kick for a foul on Jones, resulting in our first goal and only goal (No! I won't say that as there was a second goal, but the Referee would not allow it.) Andrews took the kick from 40 yards out and the ball sailed into the left hand corner of the net beating the Argyll's goalie the whole way.

Resuming the Argylls made a wonderful dash on their right wing and Sgt.-Dmr. McTavish did some fine work in front of our goal, and beat Woodward. About that time Lewis was hurt, and two minutes after McLean got one in the back, so we changed over one all. Mr. Thorne-Thorne coming in to inside right again began to show his form, and for his trouble, had all the ksin taken from his nose. Again the Argylls began to press, and after some put and take in front of our goal, another beautiful shot from their right wing put us one down, and so we bow ourselves from the Irish Army Cup.

Woodward in goal, Andrews and Pearsall at back deserve special mention for the way they played, Andrews having one of his shins absolutely devoid of skin. We hope next month to give account of ourselves in the Folkestone Charity Cup.

GEM, B.

"Some Heat."

A Reminiscence of India.

IT was in '89, on one of those sultry mornings that Dum Dum is noted for, when returning wringing wet from head to foot with perspiration that I was button-holed by the Quarter Master (Coombes.) And having an axe to grind, I thought I would draw him out with one of his fairy tales.

He fired off with one that went back to the sixties, and here is the yarn he spun:—

We were firing Section Volleys on the Cawnpore Range just before the rains broke. The heat was unbearable but we had to fire, no time limit in those days. Formed up at 400 yards, we found not a breath of wind, the flag on top of the Butts clinging to the flag staffs, and the target dancing a sort of Highland fling. The Bugler sounded the Commence Fire, and, after the usual preliminary snaps, fire volleys were fired, the best I have ever seen or heard. There was a complete absence of dust on the Butt and not a sound could be heard when the bullets struck the target

The "Cease Fire" was sounded and the usual signal from the Butts to the firing point was waited for in silence. At last it came—the "Washout." I need hardly add this was a great surprise. I suggested to the officer that we should go down and check the target. This we did, only to find the targets absolutely clean, so we returned to the firing point believing there might be a bit of tricking on some one's part.

We stopped at the 200 yards firing point, where I noticed five bright shining objects in the sand. These proved to be five balls of lead one of which I tried to pick up. But red-hot, I had to drop it and this scar on my right hand, is the mark it left. Well, we managed to get these five balls of lead back to the barracks, when we thoroughly examined them to find that each weighed the weight of fourteen bulletts, that being the number of men in the section. So we came to the conclusion that owing to the excessive heat the bullets melted in their flight. So after that, we always fired very early in the mornings. And I've forgotten to mention that all the men that fired that morning, had to attend hospital for a week, to have their blistered hands dressed.

"Yes Sir," said I, "it was very hot in Cawnpore in those days. I think I will clear off now, and change. Oh by the way, Sir, I have some wash-hand basins in my Company which I would like changed." And then came my reward—three dozen brand new wash-hand basins in exchange for three dozen old ones, not worth a D———!

And the moral is—"Always be a good listener when in the company of one who is senior."

SNOWBALL.

Thanks very much.

THE following is a further list of those who have brought their subscriptions to the *Dragon* for 1922 up to the higher rate as suggested in the article "A practical suggestion" which appeared in our Christmas number,

Lt.-Col. R. S. I. Friend, Major P. Jude, Captains L. Causton, Cheeseman, Dixson, J. Hamilton, H. C. Morley, and Stone; Messrs. D. Coote, H. A. J. Froome; D. W. Hendin; G. L. Lushington, W. A. Macfadven, E. W. Newnham, Inspector T. Burke; and Mrs. Potter.

A Canterbury Legend.

IN "Unknown Kent," an extremely interesting and entertaining book by Mr. Donald Maxwell, we find the following curious old legend of Canterbury.

Six centuries ago Canterbury was so glorious that the Devil was envious, and he obtained permission to throw it into the sea if the service held by night and day was not performed at the tomb of St. Thomas the Martyr. Some time after a great festival was held and at night the priests slept, when down pounced the fiend and endeavoured to grasp the city in his arms; but though provided with claws proverbially long he was unable to embrace one half, so vast was its size. A portion, however, he seized, and having with a few strokes of his wings reached the open sea he cast in his evil burden; thrice all but annihilated, when the prayers of the neglected St. Thomas prevailed, and an angelic vision was sent to Brother Hubert the Sacristan, which roused and directed him what to do. He rushed into the church, and seizing the bell rope, he pulled vigorously. The great bell, Harry, which gives its name to the centre tower of the minster, ordinarily required the exertions of ten men to set it in motion, but it now yielded to the touch of one, and a loud boom from its consecrated metal scared the fiend just as he reached the verge of the sea; in despair he dropped his prey and fled, and Canterbury has never since excited his envy by its splendour.

All lovers of Kent should read Mr. Maxwell's book, and should then set out to explore this great county themselves under the guidance of "Unknown Kent."

"Meester Clarke."

A Letter from Armentieres.

I AM writing sis letter to you to know if any of you can tell me where is Meester Clarke? 'Is friends never call him by zat name, zey call him "Nobbee," and when I used to ask sem why, zey only laugh at me. I will not beat see bush about, but will tell you toute suite why I want to know about Nobbee.

You know how zee Buffs was at Armentieres for so long before zee Boches put so many shells into it, zat it became like to a pancake. My Muser 'ad a leetle shop, and I used to help her sell pretty souvenirs and cartes-postales to zee soldiers. We 'ad many friends in your regiment amongst sem was "Nobbee" and 'e was a bon garcon.

'E 'ad a face so funee wis red hair on top and a moustash same colour, but as stiff as ze back of an 'edge 'og. (I know what you soldiers will say "'ow did know,") but go on reading sis letter and you will understand.

Nobbee not only 'ad funnee face but he tell funnee stories and sing funnee songs, and wherever was Nobbee there was laughing. 'E was only serious once, and sat was when 'e ask me to marry 'im. I 'ad never seen nossing so funnee as Nobbee serious, and I laugh and laugh till ze tears fall out of my eyes, and sen I see Nobbee wis se tears too but zey were of a different kind.

I was so sad for im sat I said "yes." We ad very nice times when Nobbee comes out of the trenches. E used to take me to the concerts where see two French girls, Vasseline and Glissereene used to sing. Again sat was not sere names, but see mad but brave inglis soldier never call anysing by its right name.

But soon happen see disaster. Nobbe was too very funny. It was like sis. Nobbee says I 'ate your French beer, which is like blood. I want to go ome and taste ze real stuff.

One day one of is friends, who has the permission in England, sends him a telegraph "' Muser going to die, come at once." Nobbee goes before see Colenel wis a face as long as zee pole zey use wis a barge, and the telegraph in is 'and. But zee Colonel ad no flies on im. He says to Nobbee "No you cannot have permission, your Muser writes to me last week and says she is quite well, and she 'opes I wont give you permission as you only get into trouble. And before you go let me tell you that you are the biggest lier in the Regiment."

Nobbee sen changes is face to looks as if butter wo'nt melt on it and says "May I say something Sir."

"Yes," says see Colonel.

"Well" says Nobbee, "I don't sink I ought to take all the honours for zee lies, a I sink I should share them wis you, because I ai'nt got a Muser."

Zat was the last I eard of Nobbee. I am just sinking is ee still so funnee.

Oping sis finds zee Buffs in zee same pink as zey were in Armentieres during zee war,

ANTOINETTE.

Links with the Past.

THE note on the death of Mrs. Sargent in your February number has set me thinking. How strange it seems that Mrs. Sargent's husband should have known Pte Moyes who, immortalized in Sir Frances Doyle's famous poem, seems an almost legendary figure. But it is certain that General Sargent, then, in 1860, commanding the 1st Battalion in China, must have known him and probably furnished the particulars which inspired Doyle's epic and he must often have talked of Moyes to his wife and children.

General Sargent began his fightiug at Alma, with the 95th (Sherwood Foresters) which curiously enough was the regiment to which, in his young days, General Sir Julius Raines was transferred, to return to the Buffs as Colonel after many years. Lady Raines is still alive and wonderfully active, considering her age.

We still have Phillips with us—a Pensioner at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. How strange to think that he was at Sevastopol. One can hardly realize it. I learnt about Sevastopol at school over thirty years ago, and Phillips was there and is still here. Later on he fought with the 1st Battalion in China and so probably knew Moyes too.

Mrs. Worthington is another link (the mother of our own contemporary, known to all her friends as "Wullie," and forever mourned), for her husband it was who carried into Sevastopol the only British colour which was ever flown there and which now rests in the Warriors' Chapel at Canterbury

F.W.T.

"You've got to get down to it now."

THERE are too many Mr. Micawbers
Just waiting for things to turn up,
There are too many dabblers and daubers
Who think life has sold 'em a pup.
There are too many folks without gumption
Who want to know when, where and how . . .
But there's only one way
As things are to-day,
And that's to get down to it now.

You can ask all your pals what the news is,
You can look for a lead from the Press,
You can listen while someone abuses
The war as the cause of the mess.
You can pass resolutions at meetings
That never cut ice anyhow—
But it's clearer than light,
If you want things put right,
You've got to get down to it now.

ROGER BANWELL in "The Organiser.

Colonels of the Buffs.

No. 6. Sir Theophilus Oglethorpe.

Colonel of the Buffs, 1685—1688.

"WAS buried in the Church of St. James', Westminster,* where his widow put up a monument to him with a Latin inscription and a wrong date of death." Apart from the humour of this quotation from the Dictionary of National Biography, it is well to note that the date of Oglethorpe's death was actually 1702 and not 1701 as set forth on this monument, nor yet 1704 as recorded by Richard Cannon.

Theophilus Oglethorpe came of an old Yorkshire family; and the fact that he was a Roman Catholic, as well as a man of the world, may have made the allegiance of the Buffs to their King (James II.) a simpler matter than many regiments found it, with both colonel and regiment violently Protestant. We cannot, in these lukewarm days, imagine religious questions stirring soldiers to the depths; or perhaps it were fairer to say that we feel our Church to be so firmly established that the possibility of its being threatened never arises. But in those days James II., violently Roman, persisted in thrusting his religious views on his unwilling subjects, who, at the latter end, drove him out of the country rather than accept his faith. Oglethorpe was an honest man and "having received many favours from King James II. he refused, when the revolution took place, to appear in arms against that monarch. He was therefore deprived of his military emoluments and his regiment given to Marlborough's brother, General Charles Churchill."

Some years after his death, a crazy sort of pamphlet appeared, purporting to relate the hearsay of a Mistress Frances Shaftoe, a serving-woman, according to whom, on the alleged death of the infant Prince of Wales in 1688, an infant son of Oglethorpe's was substituted, who became Prince James Francis Edward, better known as the Old Pretender.

Theophilus Oglethorpe had, some time before, purchased the Manor of Westbrook at Godalming. He eventually, in 1698, took the oath to King William, returned to England and sat in Parliament for Haslemere from that time until his death in 1702.

* *This church is known to-day as St. James's, Piccadilly.*

Enquiry Bureau.

Conducted by an old Buffer.

OUR OLD COLOURS.

WITH reference to the query, in our last month's number, as to the whereabouts of old regimental colours, the following information, obtained from *The Dragon* of June, 1910, kindly lent us by Colonel Dauglish will be of interest.

The resting-places of colours prior to 1830 is not known; old colours generally passed into private hands or else were buried.

The colours given out in India in 1830, carried at Punniar in 1842, and in use until 1848, were placed in that year in Canterbury Cathedral; they were removed to the Tower of London in 1864 (to make room for the colours carried in the Crimea) and were at first in the Royal Chapel of St. John and later in the Royal Chapel of St. Peter-ad-Vincula, where they still are.

The colours carried in the Crimea were presented at Belfast in 1848; they were also carried in the China War of 1860 and were placed in Canterbury Cathedral, in 1864.

When the regiment was again, in 1857, given a second battalion, Colours, similar to those of the 1st Battalion, were presented at Malta in 1859. They were, presumably, carried in the Zulu War and were received by his late Majesty King Edward VII (then Prince of Wales) for preservation at Sandringham, in 1886.

New colours were issued to the 1st Battalion at Aldershot in 1864: they are now in Canterbury Cathedral, having been in use until 1892.

New colours were presented to the 1st Battalion at Calcutta in 1892 and were handed to the Lord Mayor of London in 1906, who deposited them in the Guildhall, where they still are. The new colours presented on this occasion are still in use.

New colours were presented to the 2nd Battalion at Dover in 1886; in 1892, with the restoration of Buff facings, these colours were altered to conform with those of the 1st Battalion, and are still in use.

The above information is all that we have been able to obtain up to the present, but we are hopeful of obtaining more through the Editor of the Kentish Express, who has very kindly asked his readers to give the Dragon any news they can, not only of old colours of the Regiment but also any other old relics of interest such as prints, medals, and documents, etc.

THE FEELING OF BROTHERHOOD.

We feel sure that our readers, every-bit as much as ourselves, will be gratified at the contents of the following letter; and we can only repeat that if the Dragon can serve its readers in any way at any time we regard it as a privilege to be able to do so.

Dear Sir,

May I through your columns thank your readers for their kindness in replying to my appeal in the Dragon of November for news of my brother L/Sgt. H. W. Weaver of C Company 7th Buffs reported missing. It speaks well for the feeling of brotherhood amongst those who served together, also for the circulation of your paper. I have now heard, almost to a certainty, of how my brother was killed, which means so much to me. Thanking you for inserting it,

Yours faithfully,

ROSE M. WEAVER.

SOME QUERIES ANSWERED.

G.W.B. (S.E. 25):—The address of Major Williams is 20A Treborie Road, S.W.

S.T. (Chatham):—The Legatees or next-of-kin of deceased officers should apply to the Secretary, War Office (A.G. 10), 27 Pilgrim Street, for such medals as may be due to them. In the case of other ranks the application should be made to the Regimental Record Office, at Hounslow.

W.J.G. (Bucks):—The competitions held by The Army Golfing Society are open to Regular Soldiers on the active and retired lists. There is no cup specially offered to Members of the Territorial Army.

[*Queries of all kinds are always welcome. Ed.*]

Christmas at Amara.

CHRISTMAS at Amara was one of the best spent in the 2nd Battalion for many years. For weeks the Companies had been preparing for the great day and for over a month the Battalion needed no Reveille to rouse them in the morning; the stock of poultry did that.

At last the day arrived and the rooms were open for inspection. The Commanding Officer had promised a prize for the best decorated room and some keen competition was naturally the result.

"A" Company's room was very tastefully decorated and had as a special feature an aeroplane, high up in the roof which was allowed to descend on to the table in front of the Commanding Officer just as he was drinking the health of the Company.

"B" Company, who took the 2nd Prize had as a special feature, a War Memorial Pedestal, with two life-size figures of Tommy, very truthfully designed, in full kit at the summit. This took one's eye on entering the room and in itself was a masterpiece.

"C" Company was arranged very much after the style of a Picture Palace, the entrance especially reminding one of that type of hall. The designs of this Company were executed in crayon and gave great credit to the artist.

"D" Company which took the 1st Prize, was by far the best decorated. The supports of the roof were executed in Buff and Blue as also were the curtains for the doors and windows. A splendid "Dragon" faithfully executed in cotton-wool struck one's eye immediately, and the "Colours" with the Honours thereon, hand painted, was in itself a work of art. Large portraits of Queen Victoria, King Edward, Queen Alexandra, King George, Queen Mary, the Prince of Wales and Princess Mary nicely mounted in cotton wool together with various greetings to all and sundry made a most effectual display.

"E" Company had a very nice room, the special feature of which was the Colours with a 1572 Buff on one side and a Present Day Buff on the other truthfully modelled in "Mutty." As a display of clay modelling this was unique.

The Band as usual had a very beautiful room, a large centrepiece basket of flowers manufactured from paper, looking almost like the real thing set the room off beautifully. I actually saw one officer attempt to smell an artificial rose, but there, it was Xmas Day and, well the least said soonest mended.

The Drums, the last to be visited, was by no means the least decorated, the "Dragon" and the "Colours" both took prominent places in the display and some excellent work had been put into the room.

The dinners throughout the whole of the Battalion were of the best and most liberal nature, draught beer having been obtained from Bombay for the occasion and was much appreciated.

In the evening all the Companies held concerts and the day passed in real good fellowship.

On Boxing Day (the Sergeants' Day) the Sergeants' Mess was gorgeously decorated and a splendid dinner was served followed by a concert at which all the Officers were present. Almost all the members sang or obliged with some form of amusement. The Mess was greatly pleased to welcome an ex-Buff in the person of Lieut. C. L. V. MacMahon, East Yorkshire Regiment, who happened to be passing through Amara en route for England. The R.C. Padre was also present and did full justice to the spread.

The Corporals held their concert in "D" Company's room on the night of 28th December. A splendid concert was given by the vocalists of the Corporals, of which there are quite a few. Substantial refreshments were served throughout the entertainment and a most jovial and interesting evening passed.

New Year's Eve should have seen the Regimental Concert on the boards but unfortunately all the 'props' were plundered on Boxing Day by Arabs and the whole lot had to be re-manufactured. Anyhow in spite of this disappointing and annoying set back, by dint of unflagging energy on the part of Capt. G. Howe and the Troupe, the "Gaff" was put on on Wednesday and Thursday, 4th and 5th January and an excellent concert given.

The T X Details and Advance Party for Aden left Amara on Friday morning at dawn and so the festivities of the Season came to an end with Farewells and God speeds to many old comrades who will ever remember the best Christmas spent in the 2nd Battalion, The Buffs.

V. J. M.

AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

A most successful concert managed by Capt. G. R. Howe was given by the Amateur Dramatic Society on the 4th and 5th January. This was the first concert by the Society since the Battalion left India, and the extent to which it was appreciated was proved when hearing the troops singing the songs before breakfast the next morning. Unfortunately space can not permit of doing credit to each turn given, every item of which was received with enthusiasm, but here is the programme.

1st Half.

1. Turn your face to the sunshine ..... SGT. GOVER. (Opening Chorus).
2. Trumpeter ..... L/C. LENDRIM.
3. My Canadian Canoe ..... SGT. GOVER, BDM. CARY.
4. Widdecome Fair .. .. L. C. BENNELL.
5. How we pass our time away SGT. REDSHAW, SGT. GOVER, L. C. BENNELL AND PTE. JENKINS.
6. Guess what it is and you can have it. ...SGT. REDSHAW (Schoolie)
7. The Gipsy warned me ..... CAPT. HAYMEN.
8. Every little while ..... CAPT. RICE, BDM. CARY.
9. The Veteran's Song ..... PTE. JENKINS.
10. Sergeant of the Line ..... L. C. BENNELL.
11. Dixie ..... CAPT. RICE AND CAPT. HAYMEN.
12. Come round London with me .....(Final Chorus) CAPT. HAYMEN.

2nd Half.

The Great Voice Trial Scene.

Scene :—A Variety Agent's Office.

Agent: L/Cpl. Lendrin. Office Boy: Pte. Poulton.

A Char Lady ..... L. C. OSBORNE.
The Two Bobs ..... BANDSMEN MANTLE & BARRETT.
A Tramp—A Gentleman of the Road ..... L. C. MARTIN.
Black Sambo and Bosambo ..... SGT. SMITH AND L/C. LOCKWOOD.
He puts out fires ..... L. C. WILSON.
Two Landlubbers ..... S/SGT. JACKSON & SGT. REDSHAW.
Once a Sailor ..... BANDSMAN BROOKMAN.

The end then came with everyone happy, and some came again the second night including the R.S.M., so it must have been good.

It should have been mentioned that the show should have come off at Xmas, 1921, but owing to a burglary taking place the show had to be postponed. Great credit must be given to L.C. Diamond, who accompanied the whole show throughout on the piano without a relief. The whole of the Concert Party are very thankful. They are quite sure no one else would have done so well. The artistes also thank Sgt. MacMahon for his valuable assistance on the stage.

(Continued on next page.)

Christmas at Amara—*continued.*

CRICKET.

2nd Batt. v. S. & T. Corps.

Played at Amara on October 23rd, 1921, and resulted in a win for the S. and T. Corps.

Scores: Buffs 73 (Lt. Penlington 25, Lt. Chester 10). S. and T. Corps 77 for 8 wickets.

HOCKEY.

2nd Buffs v. Amara.

Played on 1st December, the Battalion with a strong eleven beat the rest of the station 5-0, the goal scorers being Lt. Cartwright (3), Lt. Lister (1), and Sgt. Coaster (1).

The Battalion team was as follows:—L/C. Lawry,; Pte. Lee, Cpl. Pack; Capt. Rice, Lieut. Penlington, L/C. Marshall; Lieut. Hoare, Sgt. Coaster, Lieut. Cartwright, Lieut. Lister, and Pte. J. Freeman.

Officers, The Buffs and R.A.M.C. v. Corporals.

Played at Amara on January 3rd, this match was remarkable for the dash and energy of both sides.

The final score was 3-3 which was a fitting result for an extraordinary keenly contested game in which no particular players did better than the others.

The Corporals' team was as follows:—

L/Cpl. Lawry, L/Cpl. Kimber, Cpl. Pack, Cpl. Crane, L/Cpl. Marshall, L/Cpl. Robinson, Cpl. Moore, L/Cpl. Giles, Cpl. Cloke, L/Cpl. Ward, L/Cpl. Dray.

CROSS COUNTRY RUNNING.

The winning by A Company's team of the Mesopotamia Cross Country Championship is dealt with elsewhere; and the following are the results of the other cross country events held recently.

Inter-platoon Cross Country.

The R.A.T.A. inter-platoon cross-country run took place on December 21st in fine weather. Seventeen teams lined up at the start, one from each platoon including E Company, who counted as a platoon. The course was over three miles of open coubtry, the conditions were exceptionally good, and the winners were to be the team with the first four home.

The order of finishing was as follows:—

1st.	No. 2 Platoon	...	18 mins., 2 secs.
2nd.	No. 3 ,,	...	18 mins., 26 secs.
3rd.	No. 1 ,,	...	19 mins., 15 secs.
4th.	No. 10 ,,	...	19 mins., 17 secs.
5th.	No. 6 ,,	...	19 mins., 20 secs.
6th.	No. 8 ,,	...	19 mins. 25 secs.

The times mentioned are those of the fourth man of each team.

The Inter-Company Run.

In view of the 6 mile Cross Country Run due to take place at Baghdad on January 8th, 1922 for the Championship of Mesopotamia, an inter-company run was held on December 23rd to decide which company should go to Baghdad to represent the Battalion.

The following table shows the result of the run:—

Place.	Coy.	Name and Time.			Place.	Coy.
1	A.	L/C. Harlow	... 31 mins.	31 secs.	21	C.
2	A.	L/C. Kimber	... 31 mins.	42 secs.	22	C.
3	A.	Sgt. Ongley	... 31 mins.	45 secs.	23	B.
4	A.	L/C. Hodges	... 32 mins.	19 secs.	24	C.
5	A.	Pte. Marsh	... 32 mins.	25 secs.	25	D.
6	A.	Sgt. Shoobridge	... 32 mins.	30 secs.	26	C.
7	B.	Pte. Mallen...	... 32 mins.	55 secs.	27	B.
8	A.	Pte. Roper	... 55 mins.	8 secs.	28	A.
9	9*.	Pte. Smith ...	... 33 mins.	30 secs.	29	C*
10	B.	Bdsm. Carey	... 33 mins.	40 secs.	30	B.
11	D.	L/C. Finn ...	... 33 mins.	45 secs.	31	D.
12	B.	Cpl. Moore ...	... 33 mins.	46 secs.	32	D.
13	D.	Pte. Richards	... 34 mins.	16 secs.	33	C.
14	C.	Pte. Foster	... 34 mins.	25 secs.	34	C.
15	C.	Pte. Sturgeon	... 34 mins.	26 secs.	35	D*
16	B.				36	B*
17	A.				37	D.
18	D.				38	B.
19	C.				39	B.
20	D.				40	D.

Teams consisted of 10 including an officer—the first eight men of a team counted for points. The * indicates the 8th man of each team

POINTS.

1st: A Coy., 38; 2nd: B Coy., 161; 3rd: C Coy., 170; 4th: D Coy., 185.

HARRIS SHIELD FOOTBALL.

B v. D.

This proved to be a great struggle in which B were successful 2-1. Owing to the sodden state of the ground, the ball was like a lump of lead after a few minutes play. L/C. Lockwood opened the scoring for B, but Lt. Cartwright soon equalised from a penalty. The second half was very evenly contested, and it was only within five minutes of time when a combined movement by L/C. Randall and Soloman led to the latter sending a beauty into the corner of the net.

The Teams were as under:—

"B" Coy.:—L/C. Robertson; Cpl. Cloke, Pte. Potter; Bdsm. Baker, Pte. Cooper, A., L/C. Richards; L/C. Argent, Pte. Soloman, L/C. Lockwood, Pte. Brown, L/C. Randall.

"D" Coy.:—Sgt. Gover; Lieut. Rowe, Cpl. Farr; Pte. Jewell, Sgt. Coaster, Pte. Everest; L/C. Martin, Bdsm. Day, Lieut. Cartwright, Lieut. Penlington, Cpl. Faulkner.

THE SERGEANTS MESS.

Phew! —its over—I should say Christmas to be more explicit. A Christmas which, perhaps more than any other, has cemented that great comradeship in the Battalion which always exists between the Officers and other ranks.

It happened like this, as Sgt. Dowse (Mick) would say "If we say we'll have a concert—WHY—a concert we'll have" and we did, with a dinner worthy of the Burlington, and with our tables tastefully decorated with Buff and Blue. The fact amazed one that here in AMARA was a repast served up amid surroundings which I have not seen equalled in Blighty. This was due to the hard work of C.S.M. Simon, C.Q.M.S. Slender and others, the latter (C.Q.M.S. Slender) excelled in table decorations, and a word Jimmy in your ear "if the Lady Editor had only seen it I feel sure that 'hints" from a mere BUFF and BRAWNY would be requested."

Our first Guest to arrive was Father John the R.C. Priest, who added additional pleasure to the meal with "yarns," derived from his experiences in many countries.

Dinner concluded, we retired with that very satisfied feeling to refreshment (liquid), and smokes. The conversation "waxed merrily," and our Guests arrived in the person of Lieut.-Col. Trevor, D.S.O., Bt. Lt.-Col. H. B. Potter, D.S.O., Capt. and Adjt. Howe and all the Officers.

Seats were taken once more and, then, a top-hole concert, with R.S.M. Andrews in the Chair, the details of which I am afraid the pressure of space will not allow.

The Toasts.

During the interval the Chairman, in rousing terms proposed a Toast to the Commanding Officer, every word of which was received with applause. This Toast was received "with musical honours, and followed by cheers, and a Tiger, such as Amara has not heard before. At the end of the concert the Colonel replied in a way which is entirely his own and which invariably leaves his listeners saying i' By Gum, I could listen to him all night, I hope we have some more." And so it was on this occasion. All who heard him realized how it is that *Buffs* are *Buffs* when commanded by such an esteemed Gentleman and Soldier to the backbone as Lt.-Colonel W. H. Trevor, D.S.O.

Later the Chairman toasted Col. Potter; and, in glowing terms referred to his work when commanding The Kirkuk-Baiji column. Then, after Colonel Potter had responded, came a speech from the Adjutant, in which he thanked one and all for their loyal support, and ended by declaring amidst cheers that "we as a Battalion are second to none." Most certainly, when our Adjutant's time is up no one will regret his going more than the Sergeants' Mess.

The Time came for the Commanding Officer to leave us, and he, in company with the Senior Officers, departed to the strains of "For they are jolly good fellows."

During the evening many legs had been pulled, and in some cases very hard. But, all good things must come to an end, and "The King" was sung, after which we wended our way 'mid Mud and Slosh to our various homes. It was the end of a Perfect Day.

A.B. 70

Odds and Ends.

C.Q.M.S. Austen (Spud) left us for Basra, en route for the Home Establishment. We all wish him good luck in his new surroundings. Also to A/C.Q.M.S. Smith who employed at the base leaves a little later.

Sergt. Ambrose ("Tots") is back with us once more, looking well. after his serious illness. His hair by the way is somewhat darker, the R.S.M. asked him how he done it. (Tots has been grey for years, I will pass the answer on to the ladies page SH ?).

I enclose a record of "IRAQS" record heat which will probably interest readers, at present we should like to forget it, for being under canvas during June, July, and August, is an experience none of us desire to repeat.

[*This record shows the following:—*

Month.	Average Maximum.	Average Minimum.
June	109°	79.2
July	121.5	85.8
August	116.7	81.9

Maximum heat recorded 129.9. *Ed.*]

Congratulations to Sgt. Ambrose on his engagement.

All members congratulate Sgt. and Mrs. Whittingham for now being in possession of a bonny baby boy, rather belated congratulations, but we "wet his head" at Kirkuk.

Two new members have joined the Mess, L/Sergts. Potter and Buxton they are two "Authorities" the former on "indents" and "ledger" questions, the latter on "Guns Vickers,"; added to this, they can both tell a good yarn.

(*Continued on next page.*)

Christmas at Amara—*continued.*

THE CORPORALS' MESS.

On December 28th a smoking concert was held in farewell to the Time Ex N.C.Os., and at which the first item on the programme was the "salaaming" of the "Dido" by the senior members of the "Dido" Club, a ceremony which was also performed later by all those present.

At this stage the R.S.M. noticed that the "Dido" Club had dug themselves in up in a far corner of the room and that the tables on his right were unoccupied. He thereupon called upon them to shift their bodies and belongings to the vacant tables. Then followed a grand Procession of Lord Asahi. Order was then called and the concert began details of which I am afraid the Editor will not allow. However, sufficient to say that the whole affair was a huge success. During the interval the R.S.M., in proposing a toast to Lieut.-Col. Potter, thanked him on behalf of the Cpls. for his presence, and reminded us what a good old Buff he was. Lieut.-Col. Potter, in response, thanked us for our kind wishes and said that nothing gave him greater pleasure than to command men of the Buffs. He then gave us 'Boys of the Old Brigade," and what song could have been more appropiate, for he is one of the "Old Brigade," and one of the best.

Midway through the second half of the programme the R.S.M. proposed a toast to the Adjutant. In proposing the toast the R.S.M. reminded us that his term of Adjutancy was drawing to a close, and expressed the opinion that all ranks would be sorry when he is relieved, and there is no doubt they will. "For he's a jolly good fellow" was then sung and all drank to the Adjudant's health. The Adjudant, replying, told us how it was made possible for him to carry out his duties:— by the loyal support of junior ranks, and I think every N.C.O. present suffered a twinge of remorse when they felt that at times they could have helped more. At the conclusion of the items we drank to the R.S.Ms. health, chaired him and again sung "For he's a jolly good fellow," and never was a song sung more in earnest. After sorting out Lamps, coats, hats etc., and most of us getting wrong ones, we wended our way homeward, pleased with the world in general, and with a happy recollection that will last for ever.

Things we want to know.

Are all the Regimental Notabilities gathered together at the Depot? (Not quite, but until the wireless photography gadget is installed in the office, our artist is unable to have a go at you. Send us your photo sonny, and those of others too. *Ed.*)

The "Dido."

The Dido is a brass shell case from a Whizz-Bang. It was picked up by Corporal "Floss" Cloke at Sannadyat, the scene of a big encounter during the Mespot Campaign. Corporal "Floss" Cloke has carried it with him the whole time we have been in Mespot, and has now presented it to the Mess. On the "Dido" being rung with a "Kiko" (an Asahi Beer Bottle opener) strict silence must be observed, the fine for non-compliance being one rupee. It is the sacred emblen of the Mess and has the same effect re discipline, as the R.S.M. on Parade.

B COMPANY.

On November 18th, in the Harris Shield Competition we deteated C after a rattling good game by 4-2. On the following day we met "D" Company's formidable team and lost 6-0. In this game, Pte. Barnes while tackling Lt. T. N. Penlington unfortunately got injured and had to retire. In these matches our team was as follows:—

Capt. and Adjutant G. R. Howe, Lt. J. E. King, Sgt. Joy, Cpls. Cloke, Crane and Moore, L/Cpl. Beal and Ptes. Barnes, Soloman, Brudenell, and Beale, S.

We obtained our revenge against "D" Company on December 1st when we beat them 2-1, our victorious team being:—

Cpl. Cloke, L/Cpls. Richards, Argent, Randall, Robertson, Lockwood, Bdmn. Baker and Ptes. Potter, Brown, Soloman and Cooper, A.

We are glad to have Sgts. "Tots" Ambrose back from India, where he has been looking after the band boys of Units stationed in Mespot, and to note that he has quite recovered from the serious illness he had at Basra early in the year.

Sgt. Howard has recently left us to attend an Educational Course at Shorncliffe,

D COMPANY.

Firstly, we are proud to say that the Harris Shield has become ours for the year 1922. Our tails therefore are well up and everybody in the company is determined that "what we have, we hold." Not a small share in our winning this trophy is due to our boxing team, which was successful in the Battalion Championships during the month, and we have particularly to congratulate our Captain, L/C. Martin, who was unlucky enough to damage his arm in one of his fights. One of the finest fights in the Competition was between Ptes. Tunnadine and French. If the writer is not mistaken, both will go far if they stick to the game. Doyle, too, showed he was no novice with the gloves and made his man go all out to whack him in the final.

As regards the football, our game with "B" was perhaps one of the cleanest, sportiest and most well-fought matches we have seen for many a month. The score, 2-1, was a fair indication of the relative strengths of the side. And the better side won and not one in "D" begrudges this victory.

Christmas has come and gone—and it was slightly different to our last year's at Kut. Incidentally, too, an excellent example of mutual support was afforded when our old friend "Asahi" came to "Edinburgh's Aid later in the evening. To Sergt. Weeks, L/Cpls. Trice and Gummingham and Ptes. Jenkins and Harvey our thanks are due for being the leading lights in decorating our winning Company room. Everybody who saw it was agreed that it was a really good show.

At Cricket we have been successful in beating Major Nealor's XI. by 225 runs to 97, our top Scorers being Lt. Rowe 61, L/C. Corrigan 56, and Lt. Cartwright 38.

In conclusion we welcome Lieut. Brooke who has returned from G.H.Q. and regret having to say goodbye to C.Q.M.S. "Bill" Upson, who has gone to "B" as Company C.S.M. Several "T.X." men leave us in a day or two's time, and the very best of luck to them all in their civvy life.

W. H. R.

E COMPANY.

We very much regret that our expectations in respect of the prize awarded at Christmas for the best decorated room, were not fulfilled, but through no want of hard work. But apart from that, the turnout in general was voted, one of the best. After the C.O.'s rounds everybody sat down to an excellent dinner of Roast Chicken, Roast Beef, and a good variety of vegetables. For sweets there was good old 'Xmas Duff' with custard, and the table was covered with a plentiful supply of oranges nuts, cigarettes, and, in fact everything a soldier's heart good grieve for. In addition the beer was served round by Sergeants.

Later after a good tea, a Concert was started, and needless to say was enjoyed, none the less because free drinks was served up. The night finished with everybody happy, and one and all agreed that they had a jolly good time.

We wish to offer our thanks to Colour Sergeant Sayer, Sgt. Dennis, and the remainder who worked so hard to make it a success, and they had the satisfaction of knowing that their endeavours were not in vain.

Just previous to Christmas the Harris Shield Boxing Tournament was held, in which Lieut. Lister officiated as referee, and to him the great success of the tournament is due. Private Cleak and Private Collins both boxed for their old companies, whilst Sgt. Dennis did Whipper in, and Private Dray clerk of the Ring.

On 5th January, we lost a number of men, who have fi ished their army career. Our best wishes go with them all. In addition we also sent L/Cpl. Stocken, and Private Wellard with the advance party to Aden.

A grand concert was held on the night previous to the T.X. men leaving us, in which our O.C. Capt. Haymen, gave us a couple of good turns, and Sgt. Instructor Redshaw, or "Avant," as we have heard him called, kept everybody in roars of laughter, and was undoubtedly a star turn.

Just now a few of the company are suffering from the poultry keeping craze, in addition to chickens that generally wake us up about four hours before reveille, one can see bungalows swarmed with pigeons and even from the Sergeants' bunk the sound of flapping wings can be heard, and very often heated discussions as to when the pigeons would have young.

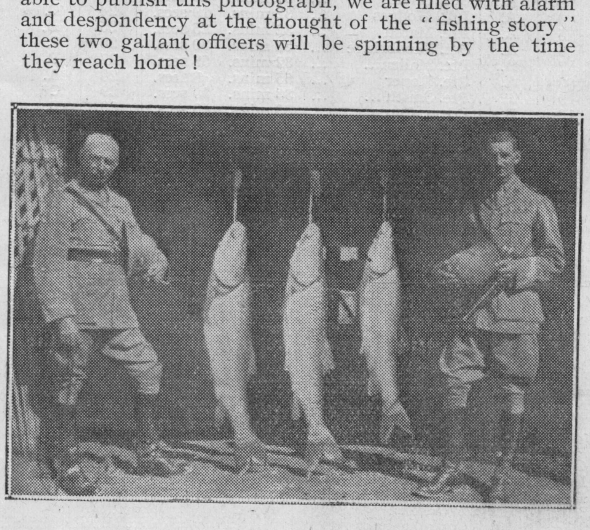
We congratulate Sgt. Buxton, and Cpl. Burgess on their promotions and wish them the best of luck.

And in conclusion out of a total strength of 97, we have obtained 55 Life Members for the Association. There are about 20 men away, some of whom will no doubt join when they rejoin the Company.

G.D.

A Good Catch.

HERE is a photograph of Lieut.-Col. W. H. Trevor and Capt. C. R. Howe with their recent catch at Amara. Unfortunately we have no details of their fishing trip, nor do we know the weight of the fish shown, though we believe the largest scaled somewhere in the neighbourhood of 50lbs. Glad as we are to be able to publish this photograph, we are filled with alarm and despondency at the thought of the "fishing story" these two gallant officers will be spinning by the time they reach home!



Army Slang.

MR. Edgar Preston, late of the *Morning Post*, has been letting himself go very delightfully in the "National Review" on that fascinating subject "Army Slang."

In this article Mr. Preston points out that the slang of our soldiers was inspired by an instinct of self-protection against the terrible assaults of reality. "To mitigate his often atrocious sufferings, to lessen his sense of the perils surrounding him at all times and in all places, he was at pains to become 'familiar,' 'cheeky,' with them all; and, like Beaumarchais' Figaro, made haste to laugh, lest he be compelled to weep."

Thus "what the soldier said" in the war is evidence of many things—it is evidence of his sufferings, of the psychology of suffering, and of the amazing powers of adaptation which the human mind can summon to the breach of all ordinary habit, outlook, and experience. Naturally one class of our soldiers' war words—a limited one—sprang from their attempts to express elementary ideas in French, or rather to lay their hands on French words and thrust them into the ranks of their general slang. and Mr. Preston sums up a great deal of Army French as follows :—

"Tommy" was nothing if not frank. No palliative euphemisms for him. Thus an *estaminet* was just a "boozer." "Doolay" was, of course, *du lait*, and "doopang" *du pain*; "erf" signified egg (*oeuf*); "Balloo" was as near as he could get to the tongue-twisting Bailleul, and everyone remembers "Wipers" for Ypres (a variant in the way of pronunciation being "Eepray"), and "Devil's Wood" for Delville Wood.

The nicknames bestowed by "Tommy" on various guns and missiles were very numerous and queerly expressive. and amongst those Mr. Preston refers to the following :—"Archibald" and "Archie," "Jack Johnson," "Black Maria," "Iron rations" as descriptive of enemy shells in general; "Grandmother" or "Grandmama," "Minnie" (a German minenwerfer), "Billy Wells," "Coal-box," "Coughing Clara," "Crump" "Grasshopper," "Lazy Eliza," "Pip-Squeak," "Whistling Percy," "Toot-sweeter," and "Dirt."

Among grim and ironical phrases noted by Mr. Preston is "going to the pictures," which meant being taken to undergo an operation.

SOME TYPICAL EXAMPLES.

Another writer on this interesting subject is Mr. Reade in Notes and Queries who suggests the following as being most typical examples of Army Slang :—

Buckshee; Lash-up; All cut; Head-worker; Hard skin; Wangle; Lit; Talking wet; Napoo; Sanfairyan; The duration; Soaked; Go west; Where are you working? Some lad; Sweating; Cold feet; Stiff; Touch-out; Blighty; Windy; Click; Cushy; Win; Jam on it; Swinging the lead; Umteen; Wash-out; Oojar; Strafe; Soft job; Muck in; The gear; Work your ticket.

One of the most curious of these words is "oojar," which apparently could mean anything whatever. This is almost true of "gadget," which (says Mr. Preston) "was applied to any new dodge or appliance and might mean almost anything." Indeed, it is hardly too much to say that half the slang words of the Army during the Great War had a mean-anything character. Under all their gaiety and under all their humour there is to be found the sense of the unutterable.

Every Little Helps.

IF you do not keep your Dragons for binding or future reference, we would like you to pass on each number, when you have finished with it, to another, whom you think might be interested; or, failing that, to return it to us to enable us to do this for you.

The Zulu War

(being extracts from the diary of Brig.-Gen. A. J. Whitacre Allen, late The Buffs).

THE writer joined the 2nd Battalion at Pietermaritzburg early in 1877, and in November, 1878 the battalion was moved out to a camp near Thring Post, some marches beyond Grey Town and close to the Zulu frontier which was the river Tugela. There we put in some weeks of intensive training under Lieut.-Col. Parnell (Later Major-General Lord Loughton). While at Thring Post the Mauritius detachment of 3 companies rejoined Head Quarters.

On 3rd January, 1879 the battalion marched for the lower drift over the Tugela, where the right column for the invasion of Zulu Land was to be formed. This column was to be commanded by our late Colonel, who later became Lieut.-General Sir Charles Pearson, K.C.B. We arrived at the drift on 4th and were joined by a Naval Brigade from H.M.S. Active and Tenedos on 6th. The next few days were spent in constructing Fort Pearson overlooking the drift on the Natal side of the river, and in fixing up a flying bridge across the Tugela which was in flood. This bridge was a "pont" a flat bottomed boat working on a wire hawser and, during the operations, the "pont" upset and one man was drowned.

The mounted Infantry also joined us and various mounted volunteer corps, while two battalions of Natal Kaffirs and run away Zulus were formed under command of Major Graves of the regiment and Major (later Lieut.-General Sir R. Hart, K.C.B.) R.E. The 99th regiment from home arrived before we left Natal which we did on 12th January.

The crossing of the river and ferrying over of the numerous bullock wagons which formed our transport was a tedious business, which began at 4.15 a.m. and lasted all day. That night everyone's nerves were rather on edge, and we had the first of many subsequent false alarms, and spent a good deal of the night at Alarm posts. On 18th the advance began and the battalion less E and C Companies marched with the advance column, two companies, one of which B, to which the writer belonged, forming the rear guard. We paraded at 5.15 a.m. and got into camp at 3.15 p.m. in pouring rain—the cooks had a difficult time before they could get their fires going owing to the damp wood.

On 19th we only made a short march finishing by fording the Umzunduin River which was running waist high and nearly caused several casualties; as sometimes happens the following night was extraordinarily cold and most of us spent it shivering in our wet kit. On 21st we continued the march burning many kraals and destroying crops; we forded the Amatakulu river and only did about 7 miles because of our enormous train of wagons which extended for nearly 7 miles. On 22nd January we marched early, A company forming the left flank guard to the wagon train and V Company under Captain Wyld the right flank guard.

The Band played the mainbody of the battalion right into the advanced skirmishers of a Zulu Impi of considerable strength which was waiting for us on the slopes of the Etyoe range. The reason for this martial effort on the part of the band was that the Native contingent who were ahead had melted away on contact with the Zulus, all their Company Officers being killed, and consequently no information was sent back by them.

(To be continued).

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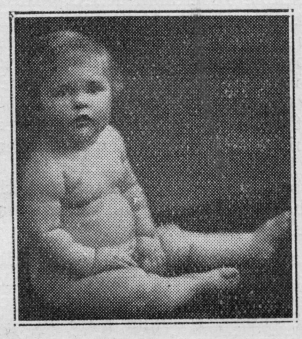
The Ladies.



Laura Isobel Patricia.

FROM Sittingbourne comes this delightful photograph of Laura Isabel Patricia, the daughter of C. S. M. and Mrs. Taylor. Born on the 8th March 1921, the photograph in question was taken on the 3rd of February last, when little Pat scaled no less than 26 lbs. 4oz.

Next month I look forward to publishing a photograph of Bubbles Dare, the daughter of R. S. M. and Mrs. Dare, who, aged two years, won the first prize in her class at the Garrison Baby Show held in Canterbury on the 9th of February.

THE KNITTING COMPETITION.

I have to thank Mrs. Stone for kindly devoting her 15/- prize to the Benevolent Fund, and Mrs. Harold Findlay for very kindly sending me a guinea for the fund in place of a knitted article.

Concerning Sales.

So far the only purchases made of the articles sent in have been as follows :—

Knitted socks for 8/6 by Mrs. Stone.
Bedroom Slippers for 7/6 by Mrs. H. H. C. Baird.
Bed Socks for 2/6 by Mrs. Baynes.

So we still have the following for disposal :—

Blue knitted frock, 18 in., value 6/-.
White Polka Jacket, value 5/6.
White Polka Jacket, value 4/6.
Red Knitted frock, 24 in., value 9/-.
Saxe knitted frock 20 in., value 6/6.
Two pairs Men's Brown Socks, value 6/6.
Two pairs Men's Brown socks, value 3/- per pair.

For these I shall be glad to accept the highest offer, and I can assure my readers they will not be disappointed in any one of them.

Whilst on the subject of Competitions, may I say how much I look forward to good entries for the Baby Bonnet Competition, full particulars of which were given last month ; and for which entries close on the 14th of March.

Hints to Husbands.

(1) **How to obtain arsenic from weed-killer.**

This striking article has reached me from a correspondent :—

Many of your married readers, I feel sure, have wondered some-times, as I used to do, how, actually, to extract arsenic from weed-killer. It was a question that interested me so much before I became a widower, that I took the trouble to go on a walking tour through Holywell and Hay in order to consult local opinion at those towns which, as everyone knows, shows an unusually high death-rate among married women, as well as an abnormal sale of weed-killer.

I found that the process of extracting this fatal poison is both tedious and costly ; it is, I fear, almost out of the reach of most soldiers ; but to those lucky few who are on the staff and therefore have plenty of leisure, and who also have private means, I give the following hints.

The weed-killer (which costs about 2/6 a lb.) should be placed in a saucepan, covered with water and allowed to simmer gently until a few specks of invisible white powder rise to the surface. These are pure arsenic and should be at once skimmed off and placed in a glass-stoppered bottle. The residue can be poured over the weeds or down the sink. You will require at least one grain, and, to be on the safe side, it is as well to have a grain and a half handy. It takes about 12 cwt. to produce one grain, and as 2 lbs. of weed-killer will kill all the weeds in a garden of a quarter of an acre, it follows that you must have either a very large garden, or a great deal of patience, for you must remember that, even in rural districts, it might arouse suspicion if you ordered half a ton of weed-killer when everybody knew that you had no garden but only a few window-boxes.

I am convinced that the best method is to begin buying weed-killer the moment you begin walking out with a young lady ; then you will gradually fill your glass-stoppered bottle without arousing any suspicion, and it will be all ready when wanted.

Hoping that my remarks may help to remove any little difficulties in the path of those of your readers who are unhappily married (and I trust there are not many)

I am, Sir,
Yours faithfully,
TH. RICE-WEDD.

Whilst another find in my letter bag has been as followes :—

Dear Editress,

I must write and thank you for your interesting Home Hint on how to make hinges for rabbit hutches out of indiarubber hot-water bottles.

I have not got a hot-water bottle, but I suffer very much from cold feet : and the moment I read this "hint," it flashed across me that if you can make hinges out of hot-water bottles, why not hot-water bottles out of hinges. So I hurried out to look at my hutches and found that, sure enough, all the hinges were rubber ; so I began taking them off at once—as quietly as I could, in hopes that the rabbits would not notice. I soon found that if the rabbit sees that the padlock is still fastened, it never thinks of looking to see if the hinges are still on. Sometimes I was lucky enough to find one fast asleep on its perch ; at other times I had to wait until it's back was turned, or it was busy eating it's young. I found too that if you are taking hinges from friends' hutches, it is better if their backs are turned as well as the rabbit's.

After I had collected about 40 or 50 hinges, I got out my bicycle repair outfit, stuck together the various pieces with rubber solution and soon made myself an excellent hot-water bottle ; and now, thanks to your contributor's Home Hint, I go to bed every night with feet as warm as toast.

I think some of your readers may like to hear of my successful experiment,

Yours truly,
SAPPHIRA HUTCHYNGE.

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RELIABLE & HIGH CLASS GOODS
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In the Hands of Sinn Fein.

(Continued from last month).

THE first thing asked for was a Sam-Browne belt and much to their annoyance Capt. A was not wearing one.

Three groups of Sinns then each had its prisoner and the groups appeared to separate. In charge of the party which, in spite of superiority of numbers, kept at least five yards from Capt. A was one FitzPatrick who moving along the road said to Capt. A—"You——! You've killed five and wounded two of us, and we're just going to finish you. We've been waiting five times for your detachment and we've got you at last!"

Capt. A was led up a little lane and was placed with his back against the stone wall. The stage was set. His hour had arrived; and in the moonlight, with the muzzles of four service rifles pointing at him, Capt. A awaited the end. He could not help, noting, even at that hour, that his would be executioners had a large amount of ammunition, and brand-new bandoliers, *and* service rifles.

A few quick words and the rifles were raised. At that moment appeared on the scene one of the few members of the I.R.A. who had at all a sense of justice. He was P——, the son of a now famed Irish leader. "Boys," he said: "This won't do. Capt. A must be tried first. Then if he is guilty, his execution will be carried out; but not till then."

Capt. A was marched off to another cottage farther up the road. P—, the Irishman, banging the door called upon the occupants to open in the name of the I.R.A., adding that he was an officer of that army. An old man appeared and prayed that they would go to another cottage as his wife was dying. Such however was not to interfere with the work of the I.R.A. and in went Capt. A while a Sinn Fein guard was posted at the front and another at the back. Inside, P searched Capt. A, once more revealing his fairness by refusing to read private correspondence. During the search, Fitz-Patrick looked on, repeatedly hurling curses and oaths at Capt. A and amongst other things taunted him with "Why don't your—— ——come out of D—— and help you?"

P and FitzPatrick then withdrew leaving Capt. A alone with the old man and dying woman, and a guard fore and aft.

It was now about 2 a.m. and Capt. A paced the small room for an hour conscious the while of the presence of the I.R.A. guard, until at about 3 a.m. no sound seemed to reach him. To be quite sure he waited in silence for what seemed an age. It must have been about 3.30 when he heard a voice calling softly, "Capt. A!" He remained silent. Again that voice and this time accompanied by a hammering on the door. In a bound Capt. A had opened the door and was shaking hands with Lt. Notley of the R. Marines.

Rapidly Notley told the story of how he had heard the firing and had brought from his coastguard station near by a small party of 14 of his men; that the Sinns had fled on his approach; that he had released Pte. C from a cottage close by; that he could not find the R.I.C. Sgt. H and that he was glad to have found Capt. A.

A search of the remaining cottages was then made in the hope of rescuing Sgt. H; but he was not to be found and the party made for Mumble's House. It was now 7 a.m. and on reaching the House they were met by Lt. G, and the D.I. from D—who had with them a mixed crowd. They had not long arrived from D——; and the whole party now set off back to barracks.

On the road they discovered the Crossly which was burning, having been set on fire by the Sinns. A horse was commandeered and again the party set off with the Crossly in tow.

But the excitement was not yet over. Without warning the party was suddenly fired on from a point 80 to 90 yards away. Under cover went all at once, and another duel began.

During a temporary lull, Capt. A moved along the road till he joined Constable Blackman R.I.C. Firing was resumed and at that moment Blackman picked off a Sinner and while taking aim at another was himself shot through the head by the foul-mouthed FitzPatrick whose day however was ended for he was immediately afterwards shot dead by Cpl. V.

It was quite daylight now and women could be seen at cottage gates watching the engagements. Indeed at one time one old lady produced a large bucket of milk to quench the thirst of some of our men. By 9 a.m. the I.R.A. representatives had disappeared and there had been only one more casualty—a cow.

The bodies of Constable Blackman and FitzPatrick were recovered and on the latter were found Capt. A's notebook and an automatic which has seen service since. A donkey cart was loaned and the bodies were brought into D——the party reaching barracks just before 10.

It was soon ascertained that Sgt. H of the R.I.C. had been less fortunate than others. He had been taken to a cottage and given the opportunity of resigning from the R.I.C. On refusing he was court-martialled and shot through the chest. He was not yet dead and the Sinns took a priest to him. A few days later his body was discovered about a mile and a half away, absolutely riddled; and on it was pinned a card, with the one word "Executed."

Have You Read **** ?

THE latest craze of *Imaginary Book Titles*, obsessing the Metropolis and its environs just now, has caught on so well that I venture to pass it along to the Dragon, with an idea that the Woodents and Avants of the 2nd Battalion might be glad to get a new pastime to wile away a few idle five minutes on those emerald lawns, inspired by the sweet music of the babbling streams, in the shade of the noble palms, so plentiful in salubrious *Aden*.

I append a few examples taken at random, and, looking through the list, I have come to the conclusion that its possibilities are almost inexhaustible.

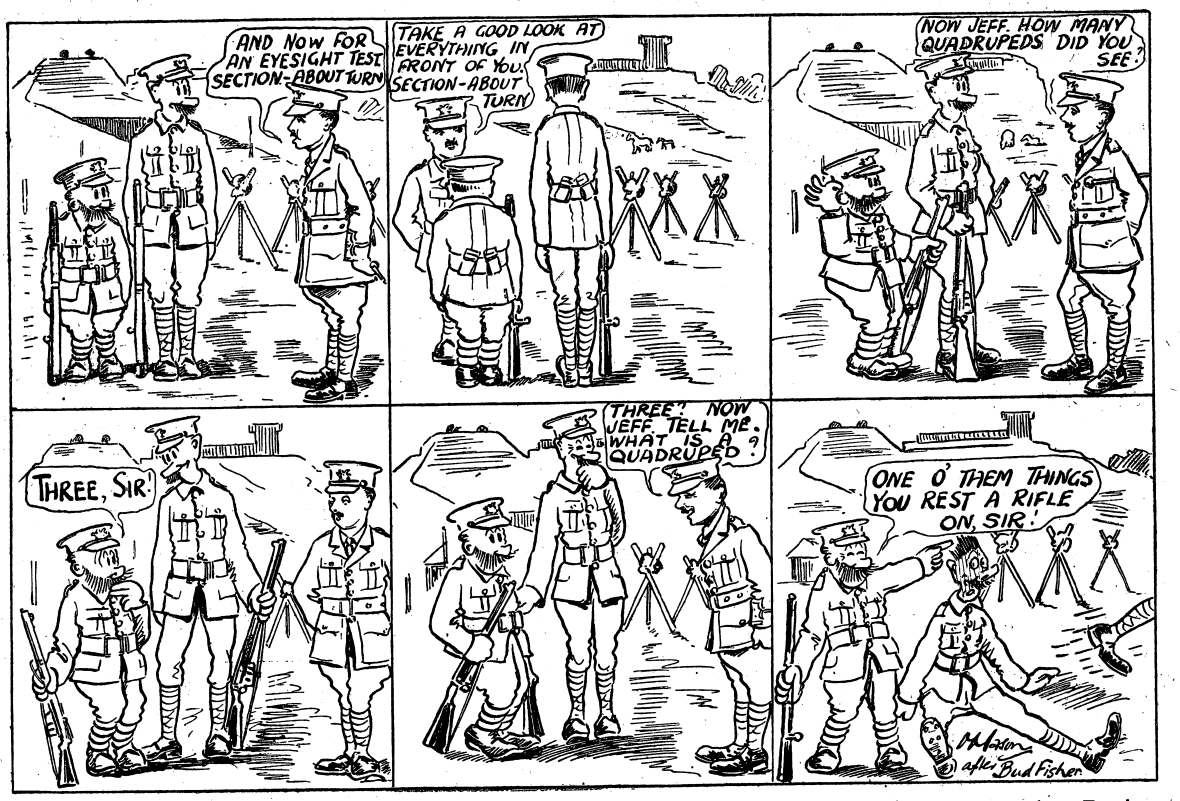
"The Explorer"	by Seymour Land.
"The Modern Lawyer"	by Eliza Lott.
"The Bookmaker"	by Adeline Day.
"The Appointment"	by Simeon Monday.
"The Firm Foothold"	by Standon Rock.
"A Race against Time"	by Luke Sharpe.
"Nil Desperandum"	by Percy Vere.
"Who is He?"	by Ida Noe.
"The Author!"	by Dick Tait.
"The New Tenants"	by Helena Flatt.
"The Burglar"	by Robin Bankes.
"Marriage"	by Betta Knott.
"Divorce"	by Marian Haste.
"The Cannibal"	by Henrietta Mann.
"The Proposal"	by Celia Fate.
"Over the Counter"	by Lena Cross.
"The Broken Window"	by Eva Brick.
"Standing Room Only"	by Bona Chair.
"They Failed"	by Ouida Dunnitt.

A.H.B.

Nursery Rhymes Up-to-date.

TOMMY had a little jamb
His face went white as snow
He banged his mag. with frantic blows
That jamb it wouldn't go
Till time was up—he fired again
That was against the rule
It made the Major fume and groan
"Whatever next? The fool!"
"What makes our rifles jamb so oft?"
The Company all yell
The Major moans in accents low
"You and your jambs to——blazes."

Jeff's Vocabulary is Rather Shaky.



Still They Come!

Past and Present Notes.

STILL they come.

Another 32 Life members from 2nd Battalion, of whom 22 came from B Company, have arrived within the last fortnight.

* * * *

One or two London members have expressed their gratification that the Annual Dinner will be held on a Saturday this year. Here for instance, is one of the letters received, which I hope may lead to my hearing the views of others.

* * * *

Dear Sir,

Enclosed please find Postal Order for 1/-, being my Annual Subscription to the Past and Present Association for the year 1922.

As regards the Annual Dinner I am in favour of that event being held on a Saturday as I undertand that it is proposed to lay a wreath on the Cenotaph on behalf of "The Buffs," on the day in question. I suggest that far more past Buffs would be able to attend the ceremony on a Saturday than on any other day in the week.

I would like to know if there have been any objections to the proposed alteration,

Yours faithfully,
H. C. WEEKS.

2, Alexander Villas,
East Finchley, N.2.

* * * *

I have now the 1922 Badges ready for issue and should be glad to receive all yearly subscriptions for 1922.

* * * *

Looking over the Old Editors of the Dragon, I wonder how many Buffs (Old and Young) have read "Three men and a God," by the late Lt.-Col. Newnham Davis, a story of the 2nd Battalion in Hong-Kong in the eighties.

* * *

Sgt.-Major and Mrs. Catchpole have been staying in Canterbury for a few days; both are looking fit and well.

* * * *

Gus Eales is to be found in Southampton. At present like many more, he is out of work.

* * * *

I see "Bill" Routher still puts the gloves on. Does he ever read the Dragon?

* * * *

Yes, the Garrison Qr.-Mr.-Sgt., F. L. Jeffery of Madras, is our old friend of the 2nd Battalion. He left them in Wellington to take up Instructor's Job on the Indian Volunteers, from which he transferred to the Indian Staff. Mrs. Jeffery was home early in 1920 and called at the Depot to see all old friends. They are very comfy in Madras.

* * * *

Many readers may not recognize in "Dan" Sheeran the brother of Jimmy Sheeran, Gym. Instr. of the 1st Battalion. Jimmy died during the war and his widow was badly injured during the German Air Raid at Folkestone shortly after.

* * * *

Bdmr., C. B. Hewitt has proceeded to rejoin the 2nd Battalion off leave per S.S. China. Many will be sorry to learn that both Mrs. and Miss Hewitt are in very indifferent health. We wish them a speedy recovery.

A. ANDREWS,
R.Q.M.S.,
Hon. Sec.

OUR BOUND VOLUMES.,

Sir,

May I say how exceedingly pleased I am at the way my *Dragons* have been bound. Nothing could have been neater or smarter.

Yours,

London, W. BOBBIE CHILD.

(*If any others amongst our readers would like their Dragons bound, they have only to drop us a line. Ed.*)

TONIC.

Sir,

I enclose yearly subscription for ye Old *Dragon*. Thanks very much for sending me the paper which recalls recollection of the days gone by of both Battalions. Wishing you every success of the *Dragon*,

From an Old Buff,

Dover. S. J. FARRIER.

"A BONE OF CONTENTION."

Sir,

May I raise a "bone of contention?" This is, are T.F. Officers entitled to wear the Buff and Blue Regimental tie? I can express no opinion on the subject, as I don't know, but I can point out, that the 4th Battalion *has* a Colour of its own, viz., Red (almost maroon) Buff and Black. Ties of these colours are offered for sale in many London Shops, who supply these commodities.

Can you give any information on the subject, also as to why, how and when the 4th Battalion decided to have Colours of its own.

Yours sincerely,

The Depot. H. WILLOWS.

[*Perhaps the 4th Battalion will let us have their views on the point raised. Ed.*]

A CHEERY LETTER.

Dear *Dragon*,

Herewith order form and the necessary. That copy you sent me, for which I thank you, was as good as a tonic. I was specially pleased with the picture of Radinghem, as it was there that I lost my great coat, and poor Mr. Rice nearly lost the number of his helmet. I wonder if he remembers his sergeant taking him down to the hospital.

That was a bad day for me, as I also lost a roast chicken. Pte. Eke and I found it in a farm house. I carried Eke's cleaning traps and he carried the chick. Afterwards when I made enquiries I found both Eke and the fowl were missing.

I notice that Twist Mason is still the Regimental artist and that Shreeve is at the depot. Does he ever use his trombone as a pace stick?

By the way, what has happened to the Regimental Numbers. Of what use is a *Small-book* to contain such numbers? I remember, when we rookies only had a four figure number, we had to take off our caps and look inside if anyone asked us our numbers. I can just picture old Taffy Reed giving his beloved "D" Company lectures on "The way to memorise figures" Heigho! they were good old days.

Well old "Duck," here's to you or, as they used to say at Hitchy Koo's place in Fermoy. "Here's the skin off your nose," and may your brimstone ever burn brighter as the years roll on. Buffers come and Buffers go but the Duck spits fire for ever.

Your ugly duckling,

Jersey, C.I. V. J. HALLAM, Capt.

P.S.—We used to call you by another name when we were boys, but I understand you have a Lady Editress now. Sh—taisez.

A LINE FROM THE DESERT.

Sir,

Many thanks for your letter of December 12th, which reached me recently, also for sending me Mr. Crosby's address. (After much thought, and a study of your version of my own name, which is really Macfadven, I think Crosby must be *his* real name!)

Now with reference to the *Dragon*, I have been having it sent out to me regularly from home for the past year, but after your letter, and the intensive attack through the post for the past month or so I capitulate and enclose a cheque for 10/- as my subscription for this year.

I do not seem to have seen any old Buffs out in this part of the world, but as I spend most of my time rushing round deserts on a camel at about two miles an hour I may have missed them.

Yours faithfully,

Egypt. W. A. MACFADVEN.

[*We should like your experiences of rushing round on that camel, please. Ed.*]

CAN YOU HELP?

Dear Sir,

I am wondering if, amongst your numerous readers, there would by chance be someone who could enlighten me more definitely as to what really happened to my son No. 2258 Sgt. J. Chapman, D.C.M., on the morning of May 3rd, 1917.

In the Battle of Cherrisey, South of Monchy Le Preux, he was Sergeant in charge of No. 10 Platoon, C Company, 7th Service Battalion the Buffs, and, according to information received, my son was last seen bombing the Germans in their counter-attack when the Forces in operation had to retire, and in which operation, his Officer, Lt. Mathias, was wounded and afterwards killed while being assisted back to the Advanced aid Post by Sgt. Cole of the 55th Company, M.G.C. If you would kindly publish these facts I would be very grateful.

Yours Faithfully,

MRS. CHAPMAN.

6 Belmont Square,
Upper Walmer,
Kent.

A UNIFORM QUERY.

Sir,

I recently came across an officers' gorget with the usual Royal cipher in the middle and the Buff's Dragon in each corner with the letter "3" under it. I shall be very much interested to hear if you know of another specimen.

I remain, Sir,

Truly yours,

L. C. R. MESSEL,

Handcross, Sussex. *Lt.-Colonel.*

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"Beneath Bell Harry."

By Treadmill.

I AM on the Black List! The Editor came to me on the 14th and asked me for this article, and I hadn't got it ready. I quite expected to have my head bitten off, but was only mildly rebuked. I expect my head was rather too tough a morsel for his teeth! I promised not to be a bad boy again, and sat down at once to write. But ideas will not come. It is an awful feeling, isn't it, when one is faced with writing so many lines on the news of last month and the general topics of the day, and one finds that there is absolutely nothing to write about. The weather is a great stand-by. One can always fill in about a dozen lines something like this. "The weather has been glorious. The hard frosts of the previous nights have been greatly dissipated by the warm rays of the sun. At night the moon has shone in all its full splendour and bathed the frost-bitten earth in his soft light—an ideal night for lovers, were it not that it is generally so cold that one's nose assumes a roseate hue. "And so on according to the barometer.

On the other hand I am debarred from writing about Sport, as this has its own special correspondent and place. What else is there to write about. Let me see? Oh yes! There was a "baby show" in the Commanding Officer's house last week. However this is only of interest to married men.

Ideas are now coming fast. Fancy forgetting that we have 145 visitors staying with us waiting to join the 2nd Battalion at Aden. Many of them only left us a few months ago, and they will have embarked before this goes to print. We wish them all the best of luck.

2nd Lt. R. Poile of the 4th Battalion has been with us for his 4 weeks' initial training.

We are very glad to see the 1st Battalion back in England again and have already renewed many old friendships. No time has been lost in playing them at hockey and as I write the band-boys of the 1st Battalion are playing our recruits at football. To-morrow night we are giving a farewell concert to the Draft and on the 18th they embark.

I hear, unofficially, that an officer of the Depot is engaged to be married and that the 1st Battalion are destined for the Rhine early this year. Finally, the Depot Coffee Shop has been enlarged and repainted, it will shortly be brought into use. And before I close I hope you will all join with me in welcoming back to Canterbury the 10th Royal Hussars, who apparently only just got out of Ireland in time.

The Sergeant's Mess.

A somewhat uneventful month has passed, attributable, no doubt, to the ravages of the Flu, confining so many to bed at at least to their homes, but which, thank goodness, are now subsiding if not quite subsided. We have had our share of casualities in connection with the complaint but are glad to record that everyone is now "As you were." Our Dances naturally, were interfered with as it was scarcely worth while holding the usual weekly ones while so many members and their wives were "crocked." All, as we say, are fit and bonny again, and as we write these notes a Dance is now in progress upstairs. The "Two Step" has just finished and we notice Brother Bromley has just slipped down for a large Winox. (He's the bloke that's Caterer, so rest assured that we should be fully justified in writing "large" in block capitals).

The usual Shoot took place on the Solane Range. Sergeant-Cook Marchant was the winner of the Silver Spoon while the Wooden-Fellow went to C.Q.M.S. Bridgeland, alias Pickles. He "filled it" all right --- we saw to that. We were reading in a Contemporary that similar prizes in that Unit for shooting were always awarded on a full Dance night. A rather pretty innovation for the winner of the Silver Spoon, but it might not be so agreeable as we imagine, to the pocket of the individual who won the Wooden Joker.

A Baby Show was held on the 10th February in the Commanding Officer's house, and the little daughter of our R.S.M. secured one of the first awards. Her nickname is "Bubbles", and she's just as sweet and bonny as the child that made the late Sir John Millais' picture so famous.

And last but not least by any means. Dear old Shrieve Pigott has left us. After our monthly Mess Meeting on the 7th, instant a little Social was arranged at which a large number of Members' wives and old Pals of ours attended. It was to say Ta-Ta to Shrieve and to present him with a memento in the shape of a silver cigarette case, and to Mrs. Pigett a China Tea Service. R.S.M. Dare made the presentation accompanied by an apt and amusing short speech, to which dear old Shrieve responded in his usual inimitable manner. He was full of devilment to the last, and could not, OF COURSE, leave out his song about "Three Blinking Crows sitting on a Tree," for the rendering of which he dressed up as a "Passon," the surplice being a Mess table-cloth adorned with a pair of part-worn Puttees, while his "Mortar Board" was an earthenware Soup Tureen. He was the very life of the evening and kept us all roaring ad infinitum.

Still, the evening went, and with it "One of the Best" — "Two of the Best," indeed, for his happy and homely little wife was, like himself, respected and revered by all who came into contact with her.

It is to be devoutly hoped that he will drop into a position suitable to his capabilities. His initiative, his tact, his very personality, (always so much on the optimistic side) would prove to any employer, either in or out of the Service, a very appreciable asset. All good wishes, Shrieve. We shall ever cherish happy memories of you and the wife — yes, and of "Little 'Erb" too.

The Dance.

The Garrison Gymnasium, was gaily decorated with evergreens and bunting for this occasion. About 160 guests participated in what was the most enjoyable evening of the season. The event of the evening was a novel "balloon bursting waltz competition," in which about 20 couples took part. The idea was for everybody to endeavour to burst the balloons which were tied to the right ankles of the ladies, the survivors being the prize-winners. Needless to say, the fun was riotous. Prizes were won by: 1, Sergt. and Mrs. Morgan; 2, Mr. Bradley and Miss Hadfield. The duties of M.C. were ably carried out by C.S.M. O. Mason, whilst the band was under the direction of Corpl. Collier.

W.M.S.

Football.

The Depot v. Rovers.

Continuing their unbeaten record in the Canterbury and District Junior League the Depot, in this match ran out winners by 7.0, the goal scorers being Middleton, Aylward, (3), Drumgold, Maillard, and Smith. Our team were thoroughly at home on the muddy ground and gave a superb exhibition.

(*Continued on next page.*)

Beneath Bell Harry—*continued.*

The Depot v. Swalecliffe.

In this further game in the Junior League, our team won comfortably 10.0. Once again the conditions for play were wretched, but this did not prevent us showing good form and piling up 6 goals before the interval which rather took the heart out of our visitors. In this match L/Cpl. Smith took the place of R.S.M. Dare still on the injured list.

The Depot v. Herne United.

The replay between these two teams in the Canterbury Hospital Charity Cup was decided on 28th January at the Wincheap Grove Ground before a fair-sized crowd. Both teams brought a good number of supporters. The exchanges in the first half were fairly even. The visitors' play was characterised by kick-and-push tactics, but the Buffs played their usual game, their combination being delightful to watch. Before the interval Smith had opened the scoring for the Buffs. Upon the resumption a penalty was soon awarded the Depot, and this was converted by Ingram. Later Middleton increased the lead, whilst in the last few minutes of the game Smith added a fourth. The Depot thus secured a well-deserved victory by 4.0.

The Depot v. Baptist Institute.

Played on February 18th, the Depot still maintained their unbeaten record with a win by 2—0. Scorers, Ingram and Shelton.

HOCKEY.

Depot v. Ashford Church House H.C.

A ding-dong game played on heavy going ground on 28th January resulting in a win for the Depot by 6 goals to 5.

Depot v. Connaught Rangers.

Played on the 1st February the result was 16.1 for the Depot, and owing to the rapid rate of scoring it was not possible to note those responsible. Our opponents were unlucky in the absence of one or two of their regular players. For us L/C. Tutt and the Rev. Hunt showed fine form.

Depot v. 1st Battalion.

This game was played under fairly difficult conditions, *i.e.*, snow and heavy going ground.

For our visitors Sgt. Hills did well at Right back; and the Goalie saved a great many shots, but conceded several corners instead of clearing the ball.

For the Depot Capt. Strettell played well at right back, and Lt. Willows worked like a Trojan at centre half. Philpot and Adams in the half line also worked hard and assisted the forward line well.

The result was 6-2 for the Depot, Scorers being Tutt 4, Lt. Willows 1, Clayton 1.

HOCKEYIST.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Brothers.—At Dover on 10 : 12 : 21, the wife of 6280374 Dr. F. Brothers, a son (Leonard Arthur.)

Croucher.—At Bangalore, on 19 : 9 : 21, the wife of 6279501 Cpl. R. Croucher, a daughter, Joyce May.

Whittingham.—At Bangalore, on 12 : 8 : 21, the wife of 6278110 Sgt. Whittingham, a son, Thomas Hordle.

MARRIAGES.

Acres.—At Fermoy, on the 11th January, 1922, No. 6279795 Sgt. E. T. Acres.

Chantler.—At St. Mildred's Church, Canterbury, on the 3rd January, 1922, No. 6280174 Pte. G. E. Chantler, D Coy., 1st Buffs to Beatrice Alma, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wise of Canterbury.

Lewry.—At St. Gregory's Church, Canterbury, on the 24th December, 1921, No. 6279027 Pte. A. Lewry.

DEATHS.

Chamberlain.—On the 28th January, at the Ministry of Pensions, Hospital, Ruskin Park, A. L. L. Chamberlain, late Lieut., The Buffs, and younger son of the Vicar of Hook, Yorks, and Mrs. Chamberlain.

Harttrup.—At Swanscombe, on the 11th February, the wife of Lieut. G. W. Harttrup, late the Buffs.

Mesopotamia Cross Country Championship.

A COMPANY, 2ND BATTALION, WIN AT BAGHDAD.

THE Mesopotamia Cross-Country Championship was open to all British Units and Formations in the district, the strength of each team being 1 off and 9 other ranks; and there were 19 entries.

A Company's team having won the eliminating run at Amara, reported elsewhere, represented the Battalion, and embarked on Boxing Day for Baghdad on a river boat which repeatedly stuck in the mud and delayed our arrival till 5th January, thus leaving the team only two clear days for tuning up prior to the race. However en route physical training was done each morning, and the boat stopped daily for a practice run. During the stay at Baghdad our team was attached to the 2nd Norfolks and are grateful for the hospitality shown them.

The run started at 14.30 hours, and the heavy going course was one of six miles in which several large ditches were met. Also one large stretch of mud and water in which competitors sunk in mud above their knees.

It was a great race in which the lead was strongly contested between Mr. Mitchell of the Norfolks, the ultimate winner and L/C. Harlow.

Sgt. Shoobridge was our first man home, he ran a great race and deserves all credit for his splendid performance. Pte. Marsh ran very well throughout and finished 6th. Sgt. Ongley usually one of our leading men, experiencing a little trouble after the first 3 miles did well in finishing 9th.

Pte. Roper justified his inclusion in the team by finishing 10th, to be followed home for 11th place by L/C. Hodges one of our best runners. L/C. Kimber was obviously feeling his recent attack of dysentery, and put up a really fine performance in finishing 13th—no one in fact without the will power of Kimber could have done so well. Pte. W. H. Smith finding his old 1920 form finished 14th; and Lt. Hamel Stewart running for us for the first time did well in finishing 34th. Our last man home was Pte. Parker, whose performance also was a very creditable one suffering, as he has done so much recently, from fever. He finished 79th in the field of 190.

So our Official Placings were :—3rd Sgt. Shoobridge; 5th L/C. Harlow; 6th Pte. Marsh; 9th Sgt. Ongley, D.C.M.; 10th Pte. Roper; 11th L/C. Hodges, D.C.M.; 13th L/C. Kimber; 14th Pte. Smith, W. H.; 34th Lieut. Hamel-Stewart and 79th Pte. Parker.

The Final Result.

The following table gives the actual points scored by each competing team.

"A" Coy., 2nd Buffs — 71; "C" Coy., 2nd Norfolks — 208; "B" Coy., 2nd Norfolks — 290; "D" Coy., 2nd Norfolks — 320; Arm. Car Coy. (No. 2) — 371; R.A.F. 84th squadron — 385; R.A.F. 8th squadron — 397; Aircraft Park — 404; "A" Coy., 2nd Norfolks — 554; "E" Coy., 2nd Norfolks — 601; R.A.F., 6th squadron — 659; 23rd Hospital — 669.

In addition to the handsome Silver Challenge Cup awarded the team, each member received a gold medal. Now the peculiar point about the Mespot Challenge Cups is that each has to be won two or three times in succession for final possession, and as no Unit remains here over 12 months, how is this to be accomplished ?—in fact our move to Aden looks as if we shall be cut off from winning outright the Two Mile Team Championship won last year at Baghdad.

In conclusion our thanks are due to the reserve men who accompanied the team. No one plays a harder part than they. They go through all the training only to find themselves as spectators on the final day.

YOUNG SOLDIER'S HANDBOOK.

Sergeants' Mess Fatigue.

YOUNG recruits are apt to question at times, (*sotto voce*, of course) the necessity for such strenuous habits as route marches, physical exercises, and living in barrack rooms. But a soldier has necessarily quite often to undergo fatigues in the course of his career, which would break the heart of any but those who are brought into a suitable physical condition by this training. Much could be written, and much is already being said, about the stamina-testing trials the soldier meets with during his sojourn as a soldier, but for the present I propose to deal with only one, that one being perhaps the most severe of its kind, *i.e.*, Sergeants' Mess fatigue.

Let us imagine that you have read the Company Duty Roster, (though in practice it is best to go a little further than imagination), and that, in consultation with your learned bed chum, who poses as an expert at deciphering Orderly Sergeants' manuscript, you have decided that you are expected to appear at the Sergeants' Mess at 06·00 hours the following day for fatigue.

Your first job will be to wash a pile of greasy plates, on some of which repose fragments of food left over from the previous meal. You will be tempted, for all recruits are notoriously hungry. Your pride and a few choice morsels will be swallowed, and feeling satisfied, you will turn to your job. The work will shortly be interrupted by an ominous rumbling in the pit of your stomach, the which it will not be difficult to account for when the caterer institutes enquiries as to the identity of the silly ass who has removed the piece of poisoned meat from the plate on the mantelshelf intended as bait for barrack rats.

But not daring to confess, you make an effort and carry on, and by the time your service dress jacket is garnished with dabs of fat and splashes of grease, you realise that it would have been better to have taken it off before starting. You carry out the idea, adding in the process, further deposits of mutton fat and soot from your fingers. The coat is then in a prime condition for the following morning's parade.

As you approach your last piece of delf the cook will graciously extend to you the privilege of blackleading the kitchen range. You leave the plates to drain, search for the blacklead brush, and being unsuccessful in your quest, borrow what appears to be a fine substitute. After listening to what the Cook has to say during the next half hour, it will dawn upon you that you have been using his lather brush.

Your blackleading operations eventually come to and end, and you turn to dry your crockery, which becomes so soiled that you are forced to the conclusion that it would have been much better had you first removed the blacklead from your fingers.

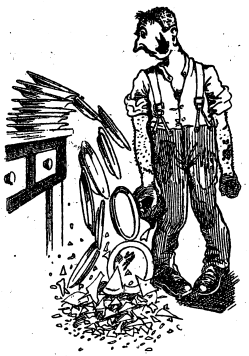
Cleansing the plates for the second time, you make a pile of them upon the table, and just as you are finishing and wondering what is coming next, gravity solves the problem for you.

The Caterer now waltzes up, and handing out some caustic soda and some ditto remarks, he will invite you to try your hand at scrubbing the floor, But whatever you do, leave your hand out of it. Study the following :—

FOR SCRUBBING ARMY FLOORS. KIT REQUIRED.

Tubs bath—one.
Cloths floor—one.
Water—a little.

Place your bath tub under the tap (do not get confused with the beer tap), seize the tab, no tup, tut-tut — tap between the forefinger and thumb of the right hand, which is the hand opposite to your left, and give it a sharp turn from right to left, a move ment exactly opposite to that which goes from left to right. If the water runs over and floods the place, it should be turned off a little sooner. Place the cloth in the water, and let it soak. Withdraw it and drop it upon the floor, over which it is then manipulated by means of the feet until the whole surface is covered. Do not kneel down and use your hands as this destroys the crease in your trousers and the polish, if any, on your finger nails, if any.



Gravity solves the problem for you.

When the linoleum has dried and the caterer seems lost in admiration of your designs in mud upon the same, you will realise that the water should occasionally have been changed.

At this point, offer as a sop to give him "Abie my boy" on the mess piano. That will probably bring your fatigue to an end, and as you meditatively re-enter your room the orderly sergeant is there to meet you and to warn you for Company office for being absent from Officers' Mess Fatigue.

His remarks when you cast bitter and biting reflections upon his handwriting will be a glorious wind up (either pronunciation) to a strenuous but most instructive day.

Army Sports Diary for March.

ATHLETIC AND CROSS COUNTRY.

March 21. Army Cross Country Championship at Aldershot.

BOXING.

March 30 & 31. Army Ind. Boxing Championship, Aldershot.

FENCING.

March 11. Army *v.* Cambridge at Cambridge.
24. Army *v.* R.A.F. at Bertrands.

FOOTBALL (ASSOCIATION).

March 4. F.A. Cup, 4th Round.
12. British Army *v.* French Army at Paris.
23. Army *v.* R.A.F. at Aylesbury.
25. Army Cup, Semi-Finals, concluded.
30. British Army *v.* Belgian Army at Woolwich.

FOOTBALL (RUGBY).

March 4. Royal Navy *v.* Army at Twickenham.
11. Army *v.* R.A.F. at Leyton.
22. Army Rugby Cup Final at Aldershot.

HOCKEY.

March 24. Final Army Hockey Tournament at Aldershot.

POINT TO POINT.

March 27. Army Point to Point at Aberfield Cross, nr. Reading.

RACQUETS.

March 6. Army Racquets (Single) Championship commence at Prince's Club.

The Latest.

Officer (taking recruits at brain tests). "Look at that field (after a few minutes) About turn! How many quadrupeds did you see? (No answer). What is a quadruped?

Intelligent Recruit: "A thing you rest a rifle on, sir!"

1st Cadet Battalion The Buffs.

LT.-COL. F. MAINWARING DUNSTAN'S ENTHUSIASTIC REPLY TO EX-CADET.

IT is with much pleasure that we publish the following letter received from Lt.-Col. Mainwaring Dunstan:

Dear Sir,

Will you please allow me through "The Dragon" to thank your correspondent "Ex-Cadet," who writes from Mesoptamia, for the very kind things which he he has written about me.

Those days in the old tumble down Drill Hall were some of the happiest of my life, and it is a source of great gratification to me to know that, in spite of the numbers we shall never see or hear of again, there are scattered all over the world, especially in the Colonies, a large number who do look back with pleasure upon those good old times. There are still some serving in both the Regular Battalion. I came across many in the Defence Force. And I am very pleased to say that several are still serving under me with 4th Buffs to-day.

I must not take up too much of your space with details of the "Military Nights" etc, as they belong to the Territorial period, so will confine myself to some recollections of the 1st Cadet Battalion The Buffs, as a reply to Ex Cadet's request.

Yours truly,

F. MAINWARING DUNSTAN.

Margate.
13/2/22.

COL. DUNSTAN'S STORY.

My first camp with the Battalion was in 1898 in the Old Park, Canterbury, where we waited in the pouring rain for the tents to arrive, which they eventually did, without the poles which had gone astray en route! but the Militia saved the situation for us. At that time Colonel Kelly, Commanding 3rd Reg. District, was our Inspecting Officer and it was in that year that I obtained my Proficiency Certificate for Captain at the Depot, the Examining Board consisting of Major J. W. Hind and Captain R. Bayard and R. H. D'Aeth.

The Government supplied Arms and Camp Equipment, but foolishly gave no money grant, not even for recruits sent to the regulars. So uniforms, equipment, upkeep of Drill Halls, lighting, travelling, rations and other expenses in Camp, Easter Manoeuvres, and a thousand and one other things all had to be paid for by the Officers, by Cadets out of their small earnings or pocket money, and by subsciptions and donations of patriotic and generous supporters of the movement. The question of cost and supply of uniforms in fact was the greatest difficulty we had to overcome on account of the rapidity with which the lads grew and developed.

However, in spite of our many handicaps, it was at one period a good and smart Battalion over 400 strong with Companies of Ramsgate, Margate, Dover and Canterbury and a Detachment at St. Augustine's College, Ramsgate. There was a good Brass Band at Margate under Bandmaster Norwood, who is still about. Very smart they looked too in their scarlet topped pill-box caps. The Cyclist Section and Signal Section were also at Margate where we were fortunate enough to have two certified Signalling Instructors in Captain Dunne and Sergt. Fair, the latter of whom is now touring with the Prince of Wales in India as the official Royal photographer. And in addition Dover possessed an excellent corps of Drums.

The next camp was at Stonar, near Sandwich, Col. Kelly was again the Inspecting Officer and he also acted as judge in the competition for the Battalion Cups. The test was a severe one, the teams having to perform the Manual and Firing Exercises, Bayonet Exercise and Physical Drill with Arms. The Margate team won and about a fortnight later they competed in the Bayonet Exercise and Physical Drill competitions at the Tunbridge Wells and South Eastern District Naval and Military Tournament. They were the only Cadets taking part and, although opposed to the teams which had competed at the Royal Military Tournament, they took second prize in both events. They received quite an ovation, but the thing which pleased them most was the compliment paid to them by the Royal Marines team who were the winners that year at Islington.

By 1906 the Margate team had taken part in fifteen Drill, Bayonet Exercise and Physical Drill, and of these they won thirteen firsts and the two seconds referred to above. I have a photograph in front of me of them with seven of the silver cups they won, including the Battalion Cup which they won every time and the Championship Cup for Sports which they won three times in succession. I think I recognise your correspondent "Ex-Cadet" and his brother in the photo.

(To be continued.)

TERRITORIAL SOCIAL CLUB.

A Whist Drive and Dance was successfully held under the auspices of the Territorial Social Club at the Drill Hall, Canterbury, early in the month. R.S.M. Verlander capably discharged the duties of M.C. for the drive, in which 100 players took part, the winners being:—Ladies: 1, Mrs. Prebble (umbrella); 2, Miss Medhurst (pochette); 3, Miss Edney (scarf). The last two ladies had to cut with Mrs. Richardson for 2nd and 3rd prizes. Gentlemen: 1, Mr. W. G. Horn (silver-mounted walking stick); 2, Corpl. Nunn (cigarettes): 3, Mr. Hickman (wallet) —after a tie between Cpl. Nunn and Mr. Hickman. Sealed number, Bdr. Kay, after cutting with Mrs. Friend (cut-glass biscuit barrel). During the interval generous refreshments were provided, the catering being carried out by Corpl. Burchell, assisted by the committee and their wives. The company was considerably augmented for the enjoyable dance programme, the music for which was provided by an orchestra under Bandmaster R. H. Mortimer, whilst B.S.M. Wale acted as M.C.

THE SITTINGBOURNE COMPANY.

Now we have Sgts. Shepherd and Stevens returned to us from a Course held at the Regimental Depot in Rifle and Lewis Gun, we are expecting to see the Detachment well up in Lewis Gun Work as soon as we receive the Guns.

On Wednesday the 8th February, 1922, the detachment were engaged in a Football Match against Milton Invicta, on the Co-operatives Ground kindly lent to the detachment. Owing to the snow, followed by a few days of sunshine the ground was in a rather bad state, but this did not dishearten the detachment who ran out winners 3-1.

Our team was as follows:—

Pte. Farrett, Goal; Ptes. Hocky and Hampshire, Backs; L/Cpl. Rogers, C.S.M. Taylor and Pte. Knight, Halves; Pte. Johnson, Sgt. Shepherd, Cpl. Clancy, Pte. Burnett, A.W. and Hollands, Forwards.

We are now looking forward to get well into Football—get into trim ready for Camp where the detachment will shine in their Blue Jerseys and White Knickers.

Things we want to know.

Is it a rule that a Football Referee stops the play and then asks a player if he handled the ball.

THE WEALD COMPANY.

All Platoons have been drilling regularly, and we are pleased to note a better attendance and a consieerable advance in efficiency. We want a few more good fellows in each area to bring Platoons up to full strength. Horsmonden is going ahead as usual.

We are glad to note that Sergt. F. S. Reed has undertaken the Agency for the *Dragon* in Horsmonden. He is sure to make a success of it, and we hope all his Platoon will back him up by becoming regular subscribers.

Major Burns has heard again from L/Cpl. F. Bridges, D.C.M., M.M. now with the 2nd Battalion. Writing from Amarah on December 28th, he said they had had a fine Christmas and, "although the beer ran short they kept the old fires burning." They will not want any fires in Aden where they now are. He says he would be grateful for a letter from any of his old pals of the 5th Battalion.

DON'T FORGET
OUR ADVERTISERS.

"Choked" Off.

Another Canterbury Tale.

Chapter I.

DOCTOR Nonsense, the eminent explorer, stepped off a sleigh on to one of the Russian Steppes with a shudder. It was cold. The snow was falling, Russia not being one of those countries in which it rises. He threw the driver a modest tip of thirty million roubles, and turned to wend his way across the Steppe in search of further stories of Russian starvation. As he turned, his movement was arrested by a bark from one of the dogs, which was, however, really the driver gasping "Linger a little longer with me."

"Your Excellency, I don'tski want your moneyovitch. Give me breadscoff. (*Our readers will here recognise an old favourite*). "We here in Russia are all starving. Money is of no use. The breadscoff is not there to buy, so what is the use of roubles? You can have your money back for just one slice of bread." The speaker collapsed in the snow, and crawling over the frozen prairie, commenced to gnaw the doctor's boots, ankle, pairs, 1.

The good doctor was touched to the quick. Rove however far he may over the dreary savannahs, he would surely find no more terrible example than this. Hastily lifting the famishing man into the sleigh, he whipped up the whip and likewise the dogs, and raced across the bush.

Chapter II.

"Tell me, little brother, would you not like to live in England, where there is bread in plenty, more or less? You speak English pretty well, at least as well as any Yankee or Scot, if not more so."

"Oui, Oui, monsieur," replied the Russian, who with the aid of a snifter and a packet of Woodbines from the Doctor's store had been persuaded to come round. "I would go to any lengths to get breadscoff. It is terrible to be hungry, and to escape that I would even live in England."

"And in Canterbury?" queried the doctor, in great trepidation.

The Leninite burst into a profuse perspiration, and went even paler than was his wont, but he bravely replied, "Even in Canterbury."

Chapter III.

And it was so.

Chapter IV.

Through some tragic error on somebody's part he succeeded in joining the Buffs.

Chapter V.

Through some tragic error on the part of the Competition Editor of John Bull, he won, and what is more, he was awarded a Bullets prize of £50.

Chapter VI.

Doctor Nonsense was one of the first to congratulate him, having travelled from London on purpose to do so personally.

"And what will you do with all that money?"

"Dookski?" he exclaimed, "I shall purchase my discharge from the army and go back to our Russian veldt. £50 is just sufficient to do so and leave me fifty million roubles for my first night's doss when I arrive. (*The reader will observe how well he spoke English*).

"But you will soon starve again," protested the doctor, "while here you get bread in plenty. It is hard to understand why you prefer to die for want of bread out there in the Russian pampas, whilst here in Canterbury it is so abundant. Tell me, what is the reason?"

"Alas," moaned he of the bug-whiskers, as he dropped a scalding tear, "it is because of the army breadscoff that I go back."!!!! O. M.

Some Tips on Whist.

TO win at whist one must train oneself to note and remember every card that is played. When you are able at any part of the game to be absolutely sure exactly which cards of each suit remain to be played then you are in a fair way to becoming an expert. Then there are two golden rules which should never be lost sight of. These are "Return your partner's lead" and "Third player play high." Observation of these rules establishes a sort of communication with your partner. If he leades spades you should also lead spades at the first opportunity on the assumption that your partner either holds high cards in that suit or that he will be able to trump it.

The Finesse.

Occasionally you may discard the second rule and "finesse." That is to say as third player you attempt to take a trick without playing your highest card. Suppose your partner leads a small spade and you hold Ace and Queen. The second player playes low although you have reason to believe that he has the King. In a case such as this you may "finesse" and take the trick with the Queen, reserving your Ace to beat his King later on.

How to lead.

With Ace and King in your hand lead the King first, with Ace, King, Queen, Jack and one other lead the King first and the Jack second; this at once effectually informs your partner where the Ace and Queen are. With King, Queen, Jack and one other lead the King; with King, Queen Jack, and more than one other lead the Jack. With King, Jack and ten lead the ten; with Queen, Jack and two or more others lead the fourth best card. With three or four best trumps lead the smallest first and the next best on the next lead, thus informing your partner where the other two masters are. If second player with Ace, King and Queen, play the Queen to a small lead. With Ace, King and Jack or others play the Jack. With Ace, Queen, ten and others play the Ace if a Jack is led.

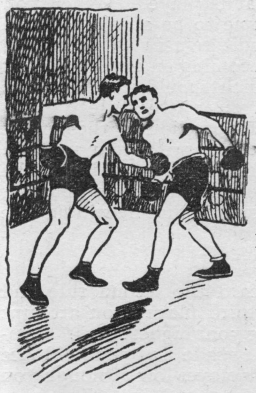
When trumps are led the second player's procedure is different. To a small lead holding Ace and another play the low card; holding Queen, Jack, and others play the Jack; holding King, Queen and others play the Queen; holding Queen, Jack and others play the Jack. If a Queen is led and you hold the Ace and a small card play the Ace, but with King and one or two small ones, play low; with Queen and only one other play small if the lead is low, but if a Jack or ten is lead, beat it.

The Army 100 Years Ago.

AT the anniversary meeting of the Royal Historical Association held last month, Mrs. FORTESCUE read a chapter from the eleventh volume of her husband's History of the British Army in which will appear the following description of the status, life, and habits of the private soldier after 1815.

Most of the recruits were country lads of good enough physique, who, but for the bad industrial conditions, would probably have drifted into the city factories. The worst things the soldier had to contend with were bad housing and drink. Guardsmen lived in barracks in Knightsbridge, seven or eight to a room eight feet square. They slept four in a crib. When they married, their wives came into the same quarters, and their children were born in the presence of their comrades. They had nothing to do in their spare time, there was no football ar any kind of recreation, and they were mostly illiterate. The result was that they took to drinking. The canteens were run by rascally contractors who paid heavily for the rights, and ruined the soldiers with the worst forms of drink.

Boxing at Amara.



A BOXING Tournament open to the Battalion took place on December 16th, 17th and 19th to decide the championship of the Battalion at the various weights and to count points towards the Harris Shield. The marking was as follows—3 points for winning a weight 2 points for the runner up and one point to each of the losing semi-finalists. The winning Company was allotted 3 points towards the Harris shield and second and third best Companies, 2 and 1 point respectively. Company teams limited to 14 men. The following were the results.

Semi-Final Fly Weights.

Pte. Doyle (D) K.O. Pte. Cleak (A) in the first round; Bye Dr. Mullins (C).

Final Fly Weights.

Dr. Mullins (C) beat Pte. Doyle (D) after an extra round.

Final Bantam Weights.

Pte. Smith (B) K.O. Pte. Beard (C) in the 2nd round.

1st Series Feather Weights.

Pte. Collins (D) K.O. Bdms. Brookman (D) in the 1st round; Pte. Lay (A) beat Pte. Shaw (D); Byes Pte. Dunk (A), Pte. Supple (A).

Semi-Final Feather Weights.

Pte. Lay (A) beat Pte. Collins (D); Pte. Dunk (A) beat Pte. Supple (A).

Final Feather Weights.

Pte. Lay (A) beat Pte. Dunk (A).

1st Series Light Weights.

Dr. French (D) beat Pte. Tunnadine (D). This was the best fight in the competition. Tunnadine forced the pace in the opening round and had French shaken, but the latter boxing very steadily just managed to annex the following two rounds and won by a narrow margin.

Pte. Maplesden (B) beat Cpl. Relf (D); Pte. Watts (A) beat Dr. Petford (C); Bye, Boy Wilkins (A).

Semi-Final Light Weights.

Pte. Maplesden (B) beat Dr. French (D); Pte. Watts (A) beat Boy Wilkins (A).

Final Light Weights.

Pte. Watts (A) beat Pte. Maplesden (B) after a close fight.

1st Series Welter Weights.

Cpl. Moore (B) beat L/C. Bridges (C); Pte. Mallins (B) K.O. Pte. Newman (A) in the 2nd round; Pte. Prince (C) beat Pte. Bowen (C) the fight being stopped in the 1st round; Bye, P/C Martin (D).

Semi-Final.

Pte. Mallins (B) K.O. Cpl. Moore (B) in the 2nd round; L/C. Martin (D) K.O. Pte. Prince (C) in the 1st round.

Final.

Pte. Mallins (B) beat L/C. Martin (D), the latter having to retire at the end of the 1st round with a damaged arm.

1st Series Middle Weights.

Pte. Prince (C) beat Pte. Gibbons (A); Byes, L/C. Trice (D), Pte. Holman (D), L/C. Martin (D).

Semi-Final.

Pte. Prince (C) beat L/C. Trice (D); L/C. Martin (D) K.O. Pte. Holman (D).

Final.

L/C. Martin (D) scratched to Pte. Prince (C) owing to a damaged arm.

Semi-Final Heavy Weights.

Pte. Holman (D) beat Sgt. Dr. O'Dell (A); Pte. Hazell (D scratched to L/C. Martin (D).

Final.

L/C. Martin (D) K.O. Pte. Holman (D) in the 1st round.
At the close of the Tournament the points were as follows :—
Winning Coy. :—D Company. 14 points.
2nd Coy. :—A and C Companies. 9 points each.
4th Coy. :—B Company. 8 points.

Battalion Championship.

Heavy weight	L/C. Martin, D.
Middle ,,,	Pte. Prince, C.
Welter ,,	Pte. Mallins, B.
Light ,,	Pte. Watts, A.
Feather ,,	Pte. Lay, A.
Bantam ,,	Pte. Smith, B.
Fly ,,	Dr. Mullins, C.

Old Canterbury Cries.

Callow Rookies !

WHO'LL take Callow Rookies ! they're good for war or winsome Cookies.
Who'll take Callow Rookies, new drawn from the plough !
Step inside and see my good Recruits,
Just in from off the land,
They're Men of Kent and sturdy Kentish Men,
And only need a polish to make them gallant Buffs.
Step up, my lad. Ah ! a comely youth, sir.
Five foot nine and deep of chest—
Well poised and lean of flank.
Clear skinned, the bloom of youth showing beneath.
Mark well the eyes, sir, crystal-clear,
O'er hung by brows that meet across the nose—
Imagination lives within.
Note the sweep of brow, the depth 'twixt crown and ear,
A head that only owns intelligence as master.
Speak up, my lad ! Hear that ? Pure Kent,
Deep toned and softly drawling—
The voice that's hurled defiance to England's foes
Since Britons wore the woad.
You'll take him, sir ? Ah ! I thought you would !
Pass on, my lad ! A Buff, a man of Kent !
There's pride of race in that, though many foes
Have trod o'er Kent no conquerer yet
Has placed his heel upon our necks,
Nor ever will while Kent breeds such as you.
Pass on ! A Buff, a Man of Kent !
Who'll take Callow Rookies, they're good for war or Winsome Cookies,
Who'll take Callow Rookies, they're sturdy Men of Kent.
CALLOW ROOKIES ! CALLOW ROOKIES !

H.

Scholarships for Army Officers' Sons.

IT is officially announced that a Gill Memorial Scholarship of the annual value of £50 and several Gill Memorial Exhibitions of the annual value of £45, each tenable for three years, will be open for competition at Brighton College on 6th and 7th June next; and that a limited number of boys will be nominated by the Army Council for admission to the examination.

Candidates for nomination must be under 14½ years of age on 1st June, 1922; and sons of officers of the Regular Army (serving or retired), or, if such be not available, sons of officers of the Special Reserve or Territorial Army.

Applications (accompanied by certificates of birth and of conduct covering the last two years) should reach the Secretary, War Office, London S.W.1. not later than 1st April.

Study the Rules.

PERHAPS the one rule above all others which is most imperfectly understood by a large section of the football public, and even by players themselves, is the one relating to free-kicks.

Now according to Law II "A goal may be scored from a free-kick which is awarded because of any infringement of Law 9, but not from any other free-kick." The offences governed by Law 9 are tripping, kicking, striking, jumping at a player, intentionally handling, holding, pushing, violent or dangerous charging and unnecessary charging from behind. As stated above a goal cannot be scored direct from any other free-kick, therefore it is necessary for the ball to be played a second time from corners, goal-kicks, and free-kicks for such as offside, foul throws, carrying by the keeper, etc.

Several instances of ignorance of these exceptions have been witnessed by the writer. To quote one glaring case I might mention an incident in which a custodian's lack of knowledge of the rules cost his side a goal in a very important match. His side were having the balance of play in their favour, but during an attack by the opposition a free-kick was awarded them following a foul throw. The half-back who took the kick fired a splendid shot towards the charge of the custodian mentioned. The ball was passing into the far corner of the net when the keeper brought off a "brilliant save," turning the ball around the post for a corner. The corner kick was well taken, a head bobbed up and a couple of league points went west.

Where the Keeper Erred.

The point at issue is this. Had the keeper been fully cognisant of the rules of the game he would never have attempted to stay the flight of the leather. If he had not interfered with the course of the ball it would have passed into the net but the result would have been a goal-kick, the ball not having been played by another player. Quite a different matter altogether.

For the Hockey Player.

THE following are a few more hockey notes which should be read in association with the article on Hockey which appeared last month.

One of the most paying strokes to forwards is the long diagonal pass from wing players to their opposite wing inside player and vice versa from between the half way and 25 yards line. For instance, suppose the outside right gets away about the halfway line, the defence converges to his wing and a sudden diagonal pass between the opposing half and back to the inside left, gives the latter a splendid chance of a quick dash through a fairly open defence.

Corner and penalty corner hitting is quite an art and many goals are scored by teams who have made a study of this. Always be ready to follow up a shot and it is well to detail two forwards for this purpose specially. A good idea for penalty corners is to vary the stroke without making it apparent to the defending side. For instance, supposing you are taking a penalty corner on the right hand side of the goal the obvious thing is to hit it to the inside left. Make pretence that this is going to take place and then suddenly hit it across the circle to the inside right and he will have a nearly open goal. Of course these plans must be worked out and arranged beforehand to make them a success, but if properly worked they are practically certain of success.

Finally, remember that scoring goals does not make the good player, on the contrary, it can ruin a good player by making him entirely individual, far greater credit is due to the player who is unselfish and makes the opening from which the goal is scored."

Hints for Athletes.

THE following notes on clothing and shoes bring to a conclusion our short series of articles on Hints for Athletes.

CLOTHING.

The A.A.A. Regulations are that a runner must wear (*a*) slips, (*b*) shorts of reasonable length and (*c*) a vest *with sleeves*. Slips can be obtained from any outfitters, and the lighter they are the better. Shorts should, if possible, be of silk and should reach to within two inches of the knee. They should be quite wide to allow of free movement of the legs. Vests may be any pattern provided they have arms. In addition it is advisable to have a good warm woollen sweater and a pair of warm flannel trousers which can be slipped on and off on reaching the starting point or kept on at jumping, etc., until actually jumping. It is the waiting about which causes most trouble to the muscles of the legs, and though it may apparently feel quite warm, the muscels of the legs are apt to be chilled even on the warmest day if left uncovered.

SHOES.

These are the most important part of the runner's outfit, and it is almost essential that they should be made for the runner. G. T. Lowe, pump maker, of Wimbledon makes a very good shoe, and it is advisable to get running shoes made by an experienced maker, and not by the ordinary boot-maker. They should be as light as possible and fit like a glove, *i.e., all round the foot* there should be no gaps anywhere between foot and shoe.

For sprinting, six spikes on the sole of the foot, correctly placed, are essential, the spikes from quarter to half inch in length. In England half inch is most usual, but of course on very hard ground quarter inch spikes will be more suitable. Spikes should be fixed on light steel plates under the sole so that they do not bruise the sole.

For jumping and hurdling one or two spikes are essential in the heel and these must be on a thin steel plate or the heel will be bruised. The top of the sides and top of the back of the heel should be strengthened to stand the extra strain. For weight putting and hammer a heavier type of shoe is advocated with spikes on heel and ball of foot.

No socks should be worn, but wash leather toe caps which can be obtained anywhere should be put on to save chaffing.

If in hurdling or jumping the heel is jarred at all a circle of cotton wool with a hole in the middle placed on the heel of the shoe inside will be found to ease the jar.

The Army Boxing Championship.

THE following are the rules for marking for the Inter Unit Army Boxing Championship.

(i.) A Competitor will be awarded two points for a win and one point for a lose. Byes and walk-overs count two points provided the boxer does not scratch in the following round.

(ii.) A competitor disqualified for an accident or deliberate foul, will not gain a point for the bout in which he was disqualified.

(iii.) A boxer will forfeit his point if he gives in, unless the Referee is of opinion that he was fully justified in so doing.

(iv.) If a boxer should win a fight but in doing so receives an injury that prevents him from fighting in the next round, the Referee shall announce that he cannot permit the boxer to fight, and he shall score one point as if he were the loser in that round

NOTE. The object of rule (iv.) is to prevent a boxer concealing an injury, and entering the ring in an unfit state for the purpose of scoring a point.

The Fairy Ring.

Our Serial Story.

Chapter V.

NEW York was agog with its latest thrill; for since the death of Regina Vamp, who unfortunately took an overdose of cocaine at a dope party on Long Island, life in this great metropolis had been singularly dull.

Up and down the crowded thoroughfares newsboys rushed wildly in all directions flourishing yellow placards bearing the dramatic legend :—

OCEAN TRAGEDY.
SHOT THROUGH CEILING.
MILLIONAIRE MAGNATE MURDERED AT MIDNIGHT.
INQUEST TO-MORROW.

On every sidewalk from Nine Points to Fifth Avenue people were anxiously scanning the news sheets, which, to quote from the *Broadway Budget*, gave the distressing details.

"The S.S. Minnesoaker" was berthed in New York Harbour this morning after a voyage which will long be remembered for its sensational ending. Shortly before midnight the magnificent saloon was emptied of its distinguished gathering, the last to leave being Mr. Otto Gurkenheimer, Chairman of the Wall Street Wheat trust, returning from Europe where he had been engaged in far reaching business transactions. He was in the best of health when he left the saloon, and was heard to remark jocularly to the Steward as he went :—

"Well, goot night, bo, I zoon mein lil' kinder shall zee. It is goot to get back to mine own belofed City."

These were the last words that any human being heard the world famous financier cry. For within a quarter of an hour the fatal bullet had scattered his active brain, and brought horror to the hearts of the happy homecomers.

On investigation by the ship's officers it was established that the bullet had passed through the floor of the unfortunate man's stateroom from the Cabin immediately below which was occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Bunter. Mr. Bunter immediately communicated with the Captain with the result that a Mr. Hugh Taylor, who embarked at Queenstown, has been detained by the police." ...

* * * *

While all New York was feverishly devouring each successive edition of the Evening papers, which gave accounts of the events in which he had played so prominent a part, Hugh Taylor lay tossing upon the hard bed in his cell in Sing Sing Prison. Never for one moment had he counted on being dealt so hard a blow by Fate. His active mind was strongly exercised in finding some means of escape from his perilous situation. It was essential that he should lose no time in pursuing the investigations for which he had risked so much by leaving Ireland.

How must he act? Would anybody believe his fantastic tale? How could he explain his presence in New York? Why was he in Bunter's Cabin? These were but a few of the questions which surged through his aching head and brought blood to his throbbing temples. But ever and anon the vision of Mauvreen Bunter rose up before his staring eyes bringing comfort to him languishing as he was in this cheerless Penitentiary. His thoughts were however soon interrupted, for a Warder came in and peremptorarily bade him prepare himself to proceed to the Inquest. He was spared the indignity of handcuffs.

* * * *

The monotonous voice of the City Coroner was droning out his verdict of this regrettable affair. All day long the Enquiry had lasted and now in the gathering dusk in the uncomfortably crowded Inquest Room Hugh listened with apprehension to the words which might mean freedom or.....

"It is my opinion," said the Coroner toward the end of his lengthy dissertation, "that the deceased met his death by contact with a revolver bullet fired by some person or persons in the cabin occupied by Mr. Silas K. Bunter. There is not enough evidence to prove whether the shot was fired by or through the agency of the man who is in custody. I therefore direct that he be released and on behalf of the citizens of New York I offer my sympathies to the relatives of the deceased."

There was a buzz of excitement in the room and it reached its climax in an exhibition of feminine hysteria. Women surged round the handsome figure of Hugh and some were embarrasingly attentive. However through the agency of the kindly sheriff he soon made his exit through a side door and once again breathed the vivifying air of freedom.

Fate had been kind but somehow he could not rid himself of the feeling that he was still as far from the ultimate solution of the baffling problem that had brought him so many hundreds of miles to a strange country. As he was thus meditating he felt a light touch on his shoulder. Turning round in surprise he saw a well-groomed benevolent looking old man whose eyes twinkled behind an enormous pair of horn-rimmed glasses and who said, "Mr. Taylor, I have a message for you." Hugh took the missive which was held out to him. Tearing it open he read: "If you need friends and shelter come with the bearer of this letter. M.B."

How good it was of Mauvreen thought Hugh to realise his solitude in this friendless city and to proffer help of such a practical nature. His heart leapt at the thought of seeing her again.

Giving his guide a gesture of assent he followed him to the corner where he found a luxuriously appointed limousine waiting. Without delay the car was set in motion, and after a brief journey through the crowded thoroughfares they drew up before the portico of a massive 42nd street mansion. *(To be continued).*

Please Read This!

WE would be grateful if Correspondents, when communicating with us, would not only sign their names, but also mention ranks, or former ranks, decorations, late Battalions, and as many other particulars suitable for our Personalia Column as possible.

And at all times we are glad to receive short articles, sketches, drawings, and news, etc., in keeping with the paper. Manuscript should be written on one side of the paper only, and be sent to the Editor, The Dragon, Depot The Buffs, Canterbury.

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(The property of Capt. H. H. C. Baird)

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How I Was Captured.

By Sgt. P. J. MacMahon 2nd Battn. The Buffs.

THE first gas attack was the beginning of the 2nd Battle of Ypres, and was made on the afternoon of the 22nd April 1915. At that time, I was in " B " Coy. 2nd The Buffs, then commanded by Capt. now Major F. W. Tomlinson at St. Jean. Ordered to reinforce the Canadians at St. Julien, we marched up just before midnight through that village towards the left flank of the Canadian line, which was in the air owing to the French retirement.

Now the situation at the Canadian Brigade H.Q. was extemely confused, and Captain Tomlinson was instructed to proceed to St. Julien, and place himself under the command of the Senior Officer on the spot, whose order was " Reinforce my present line." So off we went down the road leading to the left of the Canadian line, only to find the Germans already there. This meant having to make a long detour, and by the time we reached the Canadian front line, it was almost light. We shook ourselves out amongst them, Lieut. Laing's platoon being on the extreme left ; and by the light of day we could see only too well how hopeless our position was

ALMOST SURROUNDED.

There was really no trench at all—just a matter of 18 inches with a sandbag breastwork quite useless for defence against a foe at our front and rear. No Parados. We could neither fire to the front nor to the rear, and, having got in pretty thickly there was not enough room to be length ways to escape the fire of the Boches. No position could have been more desperate than ours. The Germans, in a French communication trench, were only about 40 to 50 yards away on our left flank (they shouted to us in French and were clearly audible) and, about 300 to 400 yards to our rear they lined the edge of a wood, nearly the whole length of the company. If a man as much moved just to ease his position, Plank ! Plank ! and he got a couple——through his pack *if he was lucky*. The many casualities led to an order being passed down the line for us to crawl along the trench. Lt. C. Laing was hit just before this order was given, and he fell back into Captain Tomlinson's arms and expired. This movement was a difficult one to execute owing to the difficulty in finding sufficient space for the men to lie down. But luckily some recesses were to hand, where a dozen or so, men could huddle together just under cover. It was at one of these recesses that Lt. W. G. Jackson got shot in the abdomen by one or other of the German snipers especially detailed on " Point Duty " for that particular " Danger Corner."

GERMAN GAS.

During the afternoon of the 23rd, at the point I then was, we received a dose of gas. There were some fifty Buffs and Canadians assembled here under Sergt. Barham and Sergt. Charleys (wounded). The gas came over, and all the men were choking with it ; it made our eyes, nose, mouth, throat and lungs feel as if pepper had been puffed into them in large doses. As we were all coughing and wondering what to do, (no gas masks at this time and no water), I suddenly thought of a box of Player's Cigarettes which my brother Charlie had sent me for my birthday. I got these out and distributed them among the men, telling them not to light them, but to put them in their mouths and breathe through them. This they did, and it seemed to ease them wonderfully. I know it did me anyway. Sergeant Charleys was killed during this gas attack by a piece of shell which hit him where he lay wounded

Immediately it got dark, our left flank was bent back and we dug ourselves in all night with our entrenching tools,

THE DENOUMENT.

But what was the use of all the digging ? As soon as the Germans saw the fresh turned earth at break of day, over came the Whiz Bangs inflicting many casualties and destroying our night's work.

My platoon kept up a steady fire on the advancing Germans until all amunition was expended ; we took a good toll of them ; and then I began firing my own. Pte. Cranmer was beside me, and I got him to load his rifle and pass it to me ; and then to oil mine and load it and then pass that. By this means I kept up a steady fire from my little vantage corner. I was gettin ; quite a few Germans; they were only three hundred yards away and coming on, so I couldn't miss them, when Plonk ! something hit me in the neck and over I went from my perch, to find that a bullet had hit the butt of my rifle, smashed it to smithereens, and filled the side of my head with splinters ; passed through my neck, down my back and out underneath my pack. I had only four more rounds left so it didn't matter much.

I got Lce.-Corporal Harry Gomm to bandage my wound, and, very shortly after, I went out for the count—re-action, I suppose. I came to, to find that we were surrounded and that some of our men were already taken. I was pulled out of the trench by a German of the 242 Regiment, but noticed some of the 243 and 241 about him so concluded that we had had three Regiments against us. I therefore considered we'd done remarkably well, so resigned myself to the inevitable.

P. J. MacMahon.

Amarah. 11/11/21.

Missing British Soldiers.

An Official Warning.

RELATIVES of soldiers reported as " Missing " in the Great War are officially warned to be on their guard against communications sent from abroad by individuals or societies professing to be in a position to give the information they eagerly desire.

Recently a mother, living in London, caused to be inserted in the German Press an advertisement asking for information regarding her son who was reported as " Missing " in September, 1917, and soon after she received a letter from the " Dead Soldiers' Society," Cologne, stating that they had found a clue as to his whereabouts. A soldier bearing the same name, so the reply ran, was a mental patient in a hospital in Southern Russia in May, 1919, suffering from a nervous breakdown, and the Society would at once despatch one of its agents (a person with an English name) to secure his return if a remittance of £10 was made to the Society's cashier (also a person with an English name) to cover travelling expenses.

The soldier's mother, all unsuspecting, applied to the War Office for certain particulars which her German correspondent asked for, and then the War Office, taking up the case, discovered, with the aid of the German police, that the " Dead Soldiers' Society " was a purely bogus concern and that at the date of enquiry the majority of its members were in prison.

Officers.

Major-General Sir A. Lynden-Bell has vacated his appointment of Director of Staff Duties at the War Office.

Lt. J. Chester of the 2nd Battalion has arrived in England from Amara and is posted to The Depot.

Lt. R. B. Sandilands of the 2nd Battalion has arrived in England from Amara to attend an Educational Course.

Qrmr. and Capt. A. Hawkins, 5th Buffs, resigns his commn. and retains his rank (Jan. 1).

Promoted Lieuts. :—J. M. Pritchard, O.B.E., seniority 24th Aug., 1916 precedence below T. H. L. Turner; and W. G. Cass (17/12/21).

Lt. E. F. Hall, M.C. is secd. for service in the staff.

The following Officers relinquish their commns. (Sept. 30, 1921) under A.O. 166/21, as amended by A.O. 332/21, and retain their rank except where the grant of a higher rank is shown in brackets after the name :—

4TH BN., THE BUFFS.—Lt. W. Goode.

5TH BN., THE BUFFS.—Capt. P. A. Maynard, Lt. F. A. Liddle (Capt.)

The Depot.

POSTING. PERMANENT STAFF, T.F.

6278041 C.S.M. F. Verlander, posted to Permanent Staff of 4th Bn., The Buffs 18/1/22,

APPOINTMENTS.

Appointed unpaid recruit Lance-Corporals :—No. 6281417 Pte. A. Clifford, No. 6281420 Pte. R. Hoasman.

EXTENSION OF SERVICE.

6279488 L/S. G. Osborne extends the terms of his present re-enlistment to a total of 21 years.

6278840 Pte. A. H. Ellon, M.M., extends the terms of re-enlistment to 9 yrs. 355 days.

TRANSFER TO ARMY RESERVE.

6278394 Pte. T. Fowler, and 6278510 Pte. P. Collard, transferred to Section "B," Army Reserve.

EDUCATIONAL AWARDS.

Awarded Third Class Certificates of Education :—6281398 Pte. G. Richards, 6281403 Pte. G. Voitch, 6281406 Pte. W. Martin, 6281403 Pte. A. Istod, 6281397 Pte. T. Smith, 6281404 Pte. A. Gray, 6283472 Pte. P. Macdonnell, 6281180 Pte. G. Phillips, 6281229 Pte. E. Burtenshaw, 6281420 Pte. R. Heasman, 6281429 Pte. S. Tallack, 6281437 Pte. J. McKenna.

ARRIVALS.

6280084 Cpl. W. Palmer, joined Depot 17/1/22 on discharge from R.V. Hosp., Netley.

6279499 L/C. A. Canning, 6280096 Pte. P. Emory, 6279489 Pte. J. Parker, 6278176 Pte. G. Milton, 6279505 L/C. M. Patterson, 6279593 Pte. F. Chivers, 6279745 Pte. F. Corry, 6278510 Pte. P. Collard, arrived from the 2nd Battalion on 21/1/22 and joined Depot same day.

6278092 C.Q.M.S. F. Austen (posted Home Estabmt.), joined Depot from 2nd Battalion, 19/1/22.

6278509 L/S. G. Emery, 6278363 Cpl. H. Gomm, posted for a tour of duty at the Depot from 1st Bn., 19/1/22.

6279293 Pte. J. Durrant, 6278432 Pte. F. Kramor, 6279544 Dmr. F. Fifield, joined Depot on 30/1/22 from 2nd Bn.

DECREASE.

6278104 L/S. F. Cox, 6281178 Boy J. Harrison, 6281468 Boy A. Deale posted to the 1st Battalion, 30/1/22.

7808460 C.S.M. W. Knight, M.M., posted to 1st Battalion, 1/2/22.

6279372 Pte. M. A. Burton, posted to 1st Bn., 6/2/22.

6279039 Pte. F. Williams posted to 1st Battalion, 7/2/22.

6279293 Pte. J. Durrant, posted to 1st Battalion, 8/2/22.

DISCHARGES.

6278040 C.S.M. S. J. Pigott on 31/1/22 under Para. 392 (xxi), K.R.

6280096 Pte. P. Emery, 6279499 L/C. A. Canning, 6279489 Pte. J. Parker, 6279505 L/C. F. Paterson, 6279745 Pte. F. Corry, 6279593 Pte. F. Chivers, 6278176 Pte. D. Wilton, 6279590 Sgt. C. Bearne, 6280714 Sgt. A. J. Adams, 6280426 Sgt. E. Clifton, 201876 Pte. R. Thear, 6279544 Dmr. F. Fifield.

RECRUITS.

Pte. J. J. Minman, Boy J. R. Harrison (late 4th Buffs, T.F., Pte. W. Faulkner, Pte. F. Claringbold, Pte. E. Skoer, Pte. W. Hoskens, Pte. F. Hogben, Pte. M. Flanders, Pte. L. Down, Pte. J. Cloake, Pte. L. E. Taft, Pte. E. F. Blanch, Pte. W. W. Thornton, Pte. S. J. Gardner, Pte. F. J. R. Murphy.

The 1st Battalion.

APPOINTMENTS.

Appointed paid L/Sgt., 19/11/21, 6279433 L/S. H. Chandler,

Appointed unpaid L/Cpls. 6280193 Pte. T. Ancre, 6281149 Pte. L. Crouch, 7810584 Pte. M. Jones, 6281251 Pte. A. Bidwell.

TRANSFERS TO ARMY RESERVE.

6336601 Pte. J. Woolhead, 6278463 A/Sgt. A. Wood, 6278461 Pte. H. Pryor, 6278467 Pte. H. Kirkdale,

TRANSFERS.

7076312 Sgt. F. J. Page, transferred from 1st Oxford and Bucks L.I., 8/1/22.

DISCHARGES.

6280019 Pte. C. Baldwin, 6280888 Boy J. W. G. Hardy, 6278783 Pte. H. C. Byford, 6280266 Pte. S. Hicks, 6281179 Pte. Y. Roche.

GOOD CONDUCT BADGES.

6278883 Pte. G. Russell, 3rd G.C. badge, 4/1/22.

6280028 Pte. J. Varns, 1st G.C. Badge, 2/1/22; 6280050 Pte. B. Marriott, do., 6/1/22; 6280024 Pte. F. Saunders, do., 24/12/21; 6278070 L/C. Edwards, do., 2/1/22.

The 2nd Battalion.

PROMOTIONS.

6279508 Cpl. Hollis, promoted L/Sgt., 13/10/21.

627849 L/C. Brann, promoted Cpl., 19/8/21.

6278728 L/C. Burgess, promoted Cpl., 13/10/21.

APPOINTMENTS.

6278251 L/Sgt. Cornwell, 6278320 L/Sgt. Robinson, appointed Acting Sergeant 9/12/21.

6278117 Cpl. Potter, 6279860 Cpl. Buxton, M.M., 6278552 Cpl. Sidwell, M.M., appointed Acting L/Sgts., 9/12/21.

6278748 L/C. Waghorne, 6279028 L/C. Emery, 6279204 L/C. Clark, appointed Acting Cpls. 9/12/21.

6279317 Pte. Godden, 6279699 Pte. Wyles, 6278562 Bdsm. Osborne, 6278518 Pte. Trice, 6278788 Pte. Wade, 6279628 Pte. Weeks, 6278891 Pte. D. Roberts, and 6278479 Pte. Maplesden, appointed unpaid Lance-Corporals, December, 1921.

EXTENSIONS.

6278863 Cpl. Green extended his present terms of service to complete 12 years, 1/11/21.

6279860 Cpl. Buxton, extended his present terms of service to complete 12 years, 22/10/21.

The following also have extended their service.

6280097 L/Cpl. J. Ward, "A" Coy.; 6280105 Pte. H. Murray, "A" Coy.; 6280352 Pte. R. Moore, "A" Coy.; 6279059 Pte. A. Downs, "A" Coy.; 6279619 Cpl. J. Crane, "B" Coy.; 6279388 L/Cpl. J. Wilson, "C" Coy.; 6279042 L/Sgt. A. Smith, "C" Coy.

TO U.K. FOR DISCHARGE.

6279975 Pte. Powell, 6279341 Pte. Jones, 6278873 Pte. Goddard, 6278576 Bdsm. Skelton, 6279590 Sgt. Bearne, 6279419 Dmr. Pleasants, 6278807 Pte. Baker, 6278808 Pte. Pitcher, 6278176 Pte. Wilton, 6279489 Pte. Parker, 6279505 L/C. Patterson, 6279544 Dmr. Fifield, 6279598 Pte. Chivers, 6279745 Pte. Corry, 6279499 L/C. Canning, 6278482 Pte. Kelson, 6278523 Pte. Bennett, 6279293 Pte. Durrant, 6278736 Pte. Taylor.

MOVES.

6278157 Sgt. Howard "B", proceeded to U.K., 18/11/21 to attend Educational Course.

6278092 C.Q.M.S. Austin "C", to U.K., 3/12/21 for posting to Home Establishment.

6278432 Pte. Krainer "A" to U.K., 3/12/21 for repatriation to S. Africa via the Depot.

EXTENSIONS OF SERVICE.

6280086 Cpl. Pack, "D" extended the terms of his present re-enlistment to complete 21 years colour service, 5/12/21.

DISCHARGE.

6278048 R.Q.M.S. W. Edwards, "C" Coy. Claimed under para. 392 (xxiii). K.R.

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Personalia.

THE following is the letter which H.R.H. Princess Mary graciously sent The Army Council when acknowledging the wedding gift presented to her by the Officers of the Army. :—

To :— THE ARMY COUNCIL.
Field Marshall Sir Henry Wilson.

I am deeply touched by the kind thought which has prompted you, and the Military members of The Army Council to bring me these charming gifts on behalf of the Officers of the Army in the United Kingdom, and I shall be glad if you will assure all the donors that I am most grateful for their useful wedding presents.

The silver Table Mirror, pair of Candlesticks, and Toilet Trays, which the officers have so generously given me will be treasured by me as tokens of their affection and regard, and I shall never forget their kindness.

(*signed*) MARY.

17th February, 1922.

1922 being the 350th anniversary of the Regiment, we have under consideration the possibility of bringing out a special number of *The Dragon* in celebration; and we should very much like to have suggestions from readers of all ranks as to the special features this number should contain. We are hoping, in fact, that the officers sergeants, and corporals will discuss this in their respective messes, and the rank and file in their barrack rooms, and, then, that the result of their deliberations may be sent to us. And of course suggestions from our direct subscribers will be equally welcome.

As to when this special number should make its appearance, we recognize that May is the most fitting month, but we have given careful thought to this matter and are inclined to think that August, when the Past and Present Association foregather at the Depot, or October, the month of the Annual Dinner, would be more convenient. Here again we should like to hear the views of our readers.

We hear that Mr. E. W. Cranmer (late no. 6,278,177) is living at Kennington and working at 10 Essex Street, Strand until something better turns up.

Brigadier General and Mrs. Hickson (who we are glad to hear is now quite better) have gone to live, permanently, at 64 Ashley Gardens, S.W.1.

We are indebted to Major G. A. E. Chapman for kindly sending us photographs of the officers of the 1st and 2nd Battalions with whom he served in 1904 and 1905 respectively. These he took himself, and we are very glad to have them for our office picture gallery. But our walls are still rather bare!

Mr. A. W. M. Finnis M.M. (late no. 8500 Lce/Cpl.) who was in C Company 1st Battalion and A Company 2nd Battalion writes to order a copy of the regimental history from East Finchley. He was one of the "Crippen" draft.

We met another of this famous draft in Canterbury a week or two ago: Mr. W. H. Loram (Late no. 8973 Cpl.). He was wounded at 2nd Ypres, was afterwards with the 8th Battalion, and later taken prisoner when with the 2nd Battalion in Salonika.

A correspondent informs us that he went to Pritchard's Restuarant, 79–81 Oxford Street (close to Tottenham Court Road station) having read the advertisement in *The Dragon*. He found the food and service quite excellent, and a really good orchestra—not too loud. So it pays to support our advertisers.

We congratulate Captain R. K. Price on having won the tennis championship at Pau.

It will be of particular interest to our 8th Battalion readers to hear that a tablet was placed in St. Mary's Church, Shoreham-by-Sea, last Autumn to the memory of those of the 72nd Infantry Brigade who laid down their lives in the Great War. This Brigade was commanded by Major General B. R. Mitford, C.B., C.M.G., D.S.O., who served for some years in the Buffs and then transferred to the East Surrey Regiment. General Mitford has had the tablet photographed and has a few copies to spare. Application should be made to Major F. W. Tomlinson, 2, Cavendish Square, London. W.1.

Congratulations to Bt. Lt. Colonels H. Findlay and J. Body on their promotions to substantive Colonel and Bt. Colonel respectively.

Brigadier General R. Bayard, we are informed, is living at Old Charlton and is very fit.

The following have been elected members of the Naval and Military Club during March :—Captain Haymen, Lieuts. Lloyd, Hamill-Stewart, Penlington, Cartwright, King, Knocker and Spear. This brings the number of serving officers up to over 20.

Captain and Brevet Major P. G. Scarlett, M.C., has been appointed to the Intelligence Department of the War Office, and is graded as a G. S. O., (3).

We condole with Captain N. S. Hart on having to vacate his appointment as Brigade Major, Durham Infantry Brigade, at very short notice—a fate which, we hear, has befallen practically all Territorial Brigade Majors. But this, we fear, is only but one example of a Buff (past and present) upon whom the Economy Axe is about to fall, and we naturally extend our condolences to all.

Personalia—*continued.*

Many of the 1st Battalion will be pleased to hear of Sergeant Hill, M.M., who is now employed at the paper mill at Snodland. He will be remembered as a fine athlete and for the prominent part he took in football and hockey, etc.

Our readers will be sorry to read the following extract from a letter received from Major R. G. A. Marriott.

" I am still myself very much a cripple as my unfortunate leg when taken out of plaster of paris hadn't joined up properly, so I have had to revert to the old wooden splint and endure what Curly Jackson styles " a mouldy time " with tight bandages and massage to get it straight." " May things quickly improve " will be the wish of all of us.

We hear of Major Tomlinson having purchased a diminutive Cottage at Littlebourne, and of Colonel Findlay and Captain Bobbie Child having under consideration the possibility of ultimately settling in East Kent. Those who are already settled are, of course: Brigadier General Hill at Deal; Brigadier General Finch Hatton at Bishopsbourne, and now rapidly becoming a chicken expert; Lt.-Col. Eaton at Patrixbourne, whose carpentry is the envy of all of us; Lt.Col. Friend at Bramling, now a market gardener of no small repute; Major G. A. E. Chapman at Pluckley, Archery Champion of S.Counties, and whose old world cottage must surely be the most attractive in the district; and Captain Baird at Bridge.

We were sorry to hear of Major W. R. Corrall's accident in the polo field in Egypt by which he sustained a broken collar bone, and we wish him a speedy recovery.

We are indebted to Mr. H. Jacobs for the names and addresses of six old Buffs, possibly subscribers to the *Dragon*; with two more to follow.

Another welcome gift received is that from Major Crookenden, who, on leaving the Depot, very kindly presented us with back numbers of the Field in which appeared a series of articles entitled " The Buffs." This series we hope to make use of in coming issues of the *Dragon*.

And our thanks are also due to Mrs. Ravenhill who has sent us a fragment of the old Regimental Colour. This is believed to be a piece of the old Colour which was taken down in Canterbury Cathedral by her father, the late General Sargent, C.B., when he put up the new Colours in 1867.

We were interested to see a photograph of Lt.-Col. Morgan, D.S.O. in the *Times* of March 9th as commanding the Oxford O.T.C., and one in the *Daily Sketch* of Lady Bainbridge sitting next to H.R.H. Prince Albert at the opening of the Aldershot New Athletic Ground.

We much regret to have to record the death of C.Q.M.S. Tassell who died at Maidstone on March 9th. He was a life member of the Past and Present Association.

Congratulations to Privates Woods and Waldron of the Depot on passing the examination for both the Army and Kent Association football referees. Drummer Richards who failed on the penalty rule, did well otherwise and hopes to win through at the next examination.

Our readers will be glad to hear that the Benevolent Fund has granted a small quarterly pension to Mrs. White, widow of the late Alfred James White, of whom we had a small obituary notice in our last issue.

Our best thanks are extended to Mr. Cheal for his valuable gift of a number of old *Dragons*. Here is the list of those he has sent us:— 1896, complete year; 1897, January—June; 1898, August—December; 1899, complete year; 1900, complete year; 1901, complete year minus July; 1902, complete year minus April, May, and December; 1903, complete year minus January April and June; 1904, January, April, May and July; 1905, June—October; 1906, January, July and December.

Incidentally we still have a few complete sets for 1921, bound in stiff blue cloth, for disposal at 10/- each should any of our readers care to have one.

In addition to the above we have received from Major George Porter, Captain G. A. Steele, and R.Q.M.S. Andrews, complete sets of the following years:—1886 to 1897, and 1909 to 1911. If any of our readers can help us to fill up the gaps we should be grateful.

Congratulations to Major and Mrs. Gould on the birth of their son. And a welcome to Major Guy Lee on taking over command of the Depot.

Here are a few extracts from a most interesting letter received from Captain S. L. P. Barker:—

" Old Trollope looked in upon me the other day, as also did Newenham. We are running a horse breeding and polo pony business, and are going in for pigs on a large scale. We also have about 200 good cattle. We have 14 polo ponies training now, and the season starts on April 1st. We have recently changed farms, and Durleigh, Mooi River, Natal is now my address. We live very comfortably, but what with making 50 lbs. butter a week; ordinary farming; road building; bridge making; and a family, I think I derserve an easier old age. I welcome any news of old friends. There are several old Buffs of all ranks out here, but the country is too big for us to meet. Will you please give my best respects, my best wishes, and the best of luck to all my old comrades, Yours, " THE HATTER."

Another old Buff, by the way, who we hear is living in Natal is Lieut. R. O. S. Kettle.

Mr. H. H. Crosby writing from India, asks if any of our readers can put him into touch with Pte. William Edwards, " whose home was in Dover, and who was for some time our " Nappy " at Sharaban in Mesopotamia." And here is another extract from Mr. Crosby's letter. " In personalia will you convey my kind remembrances to Lieut. H. Alexander, late 1/5 Battalion, now of C. (Weald of Kent) Coy. 4th Battalion and ask him if he remembers taking two others to lunch with him in Baghdad in March 1917, the said two afterwards borrowing a " bellum " Arab boat to take them back to Camp, leaving the owner to run along the bank to overtake his property ?"

It will interest our readers to know that the Committee of the War History of The Buffs, of which Brig. General Finch Hatton is Chairman, is asking the Editors of all Kent newspapers to publish General Paget's article which appears on page 100; whilst, in addition, a short paragraph relating to the History is being sent to all leading London and provincial papers, the object, of course, being to give the History the widest publicity.

We hear of Major G. T. D. Hickman enjoying the hunting down Cirencester way, where he often comes across Mrs. Hasler and her sister enjoying the same sport. We are glad to hear that Mrs. Hasler has now quite recovered from a rather nasty toss of a little time ago.

Past and Present Notes.

THE following three members have written approving of the annual dinner being held in London on a Saturday: A. Sharpe (1st Battalion), George Gammon and S. C. Marshall (late C.Q.M.S.). The date of the dinner by the way is Oct. 7th and the place Cannon Street Hotel.

* * * *

Many members were pleased to see Sammy Martin's (2399) address in last month's *Dragon*. I have had many enquiries for him in the past.

* * * *

A welcome to " Dan Sheeran " (brother of " Jimmy " one time Gym Imstructor in the 1st Battalion) to Canterbury as a Barrack warder ; Dan left the 2nd Battalion in Athlone on transfer to the A.S.C.

* * * *

I am indebted to Mr. J. R. Taylor for sending me the following list of Old Buffs who have become members of the United Services club in Canterbury :—R.S.M. H. Sangers, T. Holloway, J. Burton, T. Groombridge, W. Jones, ; R.Q.M.S. P. Ralph ; C.Q.M.S., F. McDurwatt, Master Tailor, S. D. Sutton, Col. Sgt. T. Casden, Sgts. G. A. Page, Wildman. D.C.M. ; Cpl. R. S. Allen, and Messrs. L. J. Nash, W. Coombs, R. Graham, A. J. Filmer, L. E. Ellis, W. Scott, F. Brissenden, A. E. Rennell, J. C. Simpson, F. Bickendike, J. W. H. Spelling, T. Byrne, S. O. Sutton, Junior and A. G. Cook.

* * * *

Membership, of the Association is still on the increase, and we are hoping that this year, will, at least equal last year in numbers if not in £. s. d. Nine more Life Members from " C " Coy. 2nd Battalion.

* * * *

If any members fall across W. H. Blakemore (late Lc. Sgt. in E. Coy at Dover) I should like to have his address, as most unfortunately I have mislaid it. He was living somewhere in the vicinity of Drury Lane when I saw him some few months ago.

* * * *

I have heard it mooted by ex-Buffs in this corner of Kent, that they would like to play the Depot Sargeants cricket, one Saturday during the summer. I am sure R.-S.-Major Dare, will accept their challenge if sent. Many of us would look forward to a good time on that day.

* * * *

A. E. Coveney recently sent the Depot Sgts. Mess a Challenge for a miniature range shoot, from ex- Soldiers in the War Office. What about some of ex " Buffs " belonging to Rifle Clubs sending along a challenge. Surely there are some of you knocking about can do so.

Amongst old Buffs who have recently called at the Depot have been the following :—

Mr. Waghorn, who left the regiment in 1901. He has been out of work for some time, and has been given a few days work at the Depot.

Mr. Dan Revell, late 1396 G Coy. 1st Battalion who left the Regiment in 1898 and has been employed in the furniture trade until last year. He is now looking for a job. Those who knew him will remember he was a great man at putting the shot, and invaluable in the tug-of-war team. His address is 26, Birchanger Road S. Norwood, S.E.

Mr. Ford who left the regiment in 1901 after serving with the M.I. in South Africa where he dislocated his shoulder. He came up during the war and had a new shoulder put in. He has had the misfortune to lose a child recently and is out of work. He lives at Fishponds, Chartham near Canterbury, and I am glad to say he has been helped by the Benevolent Fund. Whilst another old Buff who is down on his luck and who has been sundarly assisted is Mr. A. Branchette, late 2409 1st Battalion. Enlisted 1888 discharged 1901. He served with 3rd Battalion at Dover during this war. His pension has been reduced to 4/8d. and he has been under the Doctor for 10 weeks.

All of which shows that the relationship between the Past and Present Association and the Benevolent Fund is a very close one and that membership of the former and donations to the latter do do something to alleviate distress. The sad part is that from lack of funds we can't do more.

A. ANDREWS.
Hon. Sec. R.Q.M.S.

Regimental Notabilities.

CAPTAIN T. COOK.

Enlisted 9/10/89 ; joined 2nd Battalion, 15/11/89 ; appointed L/C., 1/10/89 ; promoted Cpl., 15/10/90 ; appointed L/Sgt., 21/10/91 ; promoted Sgt., 23/5/94 and Col.-Sgt., 6/2/96 ; posted to 1st Battalion 28/10/97 ; promoted R.Q.M.Sgt., 9/5/00 and Regt.-Sgt.-Major, 28/11/03 ; gazetted Lt. and Qr.-Master, 4/10/13 ; promoted Capt., 1/7/17.

SERVICE OVERSEAS.

India, 28/10/97—17/1/98 ; N. West Frontier, 18/1/98—3/10/98 ; India, 4/10/98—15/2/91 ; Burmah, 16/2/01—11/12/02 ; India, 12/12/02—13/10/03 ; Aden, 14/10/03—8/12/04 ; To France with 1st Battalion, 1914 until posted to M.G. Corps at Grantham, 30/12/15. Rejoined 1st Battalion, June, 1919.

MEDALS.

Indian 1895 with clasp Punjaub Frontier ; 1914 Star and Clasp ; British War Medal ; Victory Medal ; Long Service and G.C. Medal ; Coronation Medal 1911.

WANTED.—The names and addresses of all old Buffs to enable us to send them a Dragon.

The 1st Battalion.

THE Battalion is once more under orders, this time to proceed to Constantinople on or after April 20th 1922, there to form part of the British Army of the Black Sea. Once again the battalion is in a state of hurry (and in many cases, worry) and the awful ordeal of packing and moving is staring us in the face. Men have been recalled from leave and all have now been medically examined. Those unfit or ineligible to proceed overseas will be taken on the strength of the Depot. Short embarkation leave is already being enjoyed and the Quartermaster is looking over his stock of drill khaki. Unfortunately married families are not to accompany the Battalion and in all probability they will be accommodated at the Married Families Camp on St. Martin's Plain. Elsewhere will be noted a short account of Constantinople. We earnestly hope that our stay there will not be too protracted, but that soon we shall move to a station where our wives and children can join us.

In Brief.

During February, the Battalion was favoured with a visit from Major General Sir A. L. Lyndon Bell, K.C.B., K.C.M.G. We trust the General was as delighted to see us as we were to have him with us again.

Late in the month we were visited by Colonel Commandant W. J. Dugan, C.M.G., D.S.O., Commanding 10th Infantry Brigade of which we now form part.

Captain L. P. Causton, M.C. joined the Battalion on 18th February and took over the command of " B " Coy.

We have reluctantly said farewell to Lt. G. C. Stemp, who resigned his commission on 1st March. Good luck attend him in his new sphere.

Lts. J. P. R. Thorne-Thorne and C. J. W. Robson have joined us and are posted to C. and D. Coys. respectively.

Mr. Thorne-Thorne and Cpl. McLean played in the Soccer trial match Army v. Rest at Woolwich on 6th March and gave a good account of themselves. Mr. Thorne-Thorne played for British Army v. French Army at Paris on 11th March.

The Cross Country Runners under Lt. L. Essell took part in the Eastern Command Cross Country Run but had to surrender to the Royal Corps of Signals, and be content with 3rd place. Mr. Essell says it was due to want of training.

The Battalion entered the E. C. Bronze Medal Tournament and journeyed to Colchester to compete in the Officers' Bayonet v. Bayonet; Team Bayonet Combat; N.C.O's Bayonet v. Bayonet; and Tug-of-War. We were beaten by the finalists in the Team Combat and Tug-of-War, and came away with the impression that there was quite a good deal yet to be learnt.

On 1st March, the Battalion Soccer side played Folkestone in the Charity Cup Competition and lost by 3 goals to 1 to a smart and quicker side, but at the same time put up a very respectable show against their professional rivals.

" D " Coy. are to be congratulated on again winning the Hockey Shield and so obtaining two points towards the Harris Shield, " C " Coy. having to be content with one point though they raked in two for football.

We cannot conclude without wishing Major Guy Lee, D.S.O., much happiness in his new duties at the Depot, and without welcoming Majors Crookenden and Gould who have come to us from the Depot. May they never regret their service with the 1st Battalion.

Morlancourt Boxing Tournament.

The Battalion Boxing team is to be heartily congratulated on the good account they gave of thenselves in a Charity Tournament held at Folkestone Drill Hall on the 10th March The Tournament was in aid of Morlancourt (Folkestone's adopted town) relief fund and, judging from the crowd present, many pounds must have been added to that deserving Charity. The results in brief were :—

Team :— Lt. Heavy, Sgt. Gibson, runner up., Middle, L/Cl. Clements runner up., Feathers, Bdm. Fearon runner up., Bantan, Pte. Maunders Wi er., Open Middle, Pte. Wallace Winner., Pte. Barden runner up.

Six Units of the Garrison competed for the Trophy, (very kindly given by the Civilian Committee) and 1st Battalion M.G.C. came out winners with 34 points, ourselves second with 27 points.

Although some of our brightest stars were beaten in the finals, we congratulate all who competed, especially the following to whom we also extend our sympathy as well.

Lance.Corporal Mills, Lance.Corporal Hughes and Private Williams.

Many thanks are due to C.Q.M.S. Manning for training, Major Lee, D.S.O., M.C., for his Committee work, and last but by no means least Lieut. H. Milton for his untiring efforts both on behalf of the Battalion team, and also for his splendid work in connection with the whole Tournament.

Hockey.

The Battalion has not, except on one occasion recently, been able to field a strong side, with the result that it was beaten again by the Depot (4—1) and by the School of Education (7—1).

The finest game of the season was that against the East Yorkshire Regiment, a game which proved that good hockey could be played by the Battalion when a really good side could be turned out. Lt. Robson Coropral Palmer and Pte. Purton made their debut and played well. The battalion won by 4 goals to 1, the scores being Sgt. Collie (2), Lts. Kimm and Robson (1 each). Our team was as follows :—

Goal—Bdn. Pearsall; Backs—Lt. Davies and Pte. Purton; Halves—Lt. Coates, Lt. D'Arcy Symonds and Cpl. Palmer; Forwards—Lt. Webster, Lt. Robson, Lt. Kimm, Sgt. Collier and L/C. Perry.

Inter-Company Tournament.

The inter-company hockey tournament, played on the League principle, has been concluded and resulted in a triumph for " D " Coy, with " C " as runners-up. Some excellent games were played and they revealed a decided improvement in the standard of hockey, aided undoubtedly by a splendid ground. The full results are :—

C	v	B. — C	won	3—1.
B	v	A. — B	,,	3—1.
D	v	B. — D	,,	8—0.
A	v	C. — C	,,	5—0.
A	v	D. — D	,,	6—0.
C	v	D. — D	,,	4—1.

Well done ! " D " —and well-tried ! " C."

The Sergeants Mess.

Our social functions this month have not been very numerous, owing to the fact that so many of our members have been enjoying leave.

We have played our return Billiard Match with the East Yorks., but with no better result, as they again beat us rather easily.

We have held our usual couple of whist drives, one of which was extraordinarily successful, 22 tables being occupied. The Mess was packed, so much so, that one member who started whist on the Billiard table, finished up underneath it.

Our latest innovation is a dancing class, held weekly for men only, at which the non-dancers are taught by the dancing members. Judging from the first evening, this seems likely to be very popular. A prize is to be given to the member making most progress during the month, so our first competition is being eagerly awaited.

We have been very pleased to welcome on several occasions, some visitors from the Depot, and hope that visits between the two Messes may become more frequent.

Our monthly spoon shoot took place on the open range at Hythe, and resulted in a win for Sgt. Bennett, the " Wooden Un " going to Tim Kelly.

We are pleased to welcome C.Q.M.S. Austen from the 2nd Battalion, although I suppose we shall lose him again *if* we go to Constant."

C. S. M. Follett has left us for a tour of duty at the Depot and we wish him the best of luck.

Among our civilian visitors have been C. M. Catchpole, Dick Steptoe and Toff Wall, all of whom will be remembered by a good many in the Depot and 2nd Battalion. Who is the member who had to strike a match to see the time, by his illuminated watch in the day time ?

The 1st Battalion—*continued,*

B COMPANY.

Once again "B" Coy. has a new Company Commander; and all ranks join in welcoming Captain Causton to the Company, at the same time wishing Major Guy Lee the best of luck in his new command.

We are sorry to lose C.Q.M.S. Burt, who has returned to "C" Coy. Although he was not long with this Company, he had already made his keenness felt in more ways than one, and it was largely due to his assistance we were able to run such a successful smoking concert at Christmas. We are, however, sure that C.Q.M.S. Austin who has come from the 2nd Battalion will make an able successor to him in every way.

What with leave and employments, and a number of time expireds, etc., the strength of the Coy. is at a low ebb, but we hope to be made up soon and to raise some more useful sides to compete in the Harris Shield this year.

A Coy. was beaten at both football and hockey in the Harris Shield but "D" Coy. proved far too strong for us at hockey and knocked us out. With more practise we must hope for better things next year.

Talking of hockey the Company have had three representatives play for the Battalion Team, Lt. Webster, W. Collins and Bandsman Marshall. We also sent three, C. S. M. Goodwin, Pts. Paull and Smith with the Regimental Bayonet fighting team, and Sgt. Grainger with the Tug O' War team. Congratulations and best of luck to them all.

We were very glad indeed to see Bandsman Fearon and Pte. Barden do so well in their preliminary round in the Garrison Boxing Competition, may their success follow them through the next round on the 10th.

We have recently lost the following from the Coy.:—Cpl. Manwel, and Privates Attwood, Barton "Tich" Brooke, Emery, Harris, Marsh and Williams discharged, and Pte. Knight, transferred to the Army Reserve.—Farewell and good luck to them in their new life.

The new arrivals from the Depot we greet and hope they have by now settled down. They are, Cpl. Dennis, and Pts. Burton, Goddard, Jones, Legg and Meadon.

C COMPANY.

Since my last notes we have received a Draft from the Depot of 10 other ranks, and have won the Football Shield and gained 2 points for the Harris Shield by defeating D Coy. 3—0.

At Hockey we were runners up being beaten by D, 0—4, in the final after having beaten A, 4—0.

In the Boxing tournament, reported elsewhere, C Coy. were represented by L/C Hughes (Light-weight Team), Pte Manders (Bantam-weight Team) and Pte. Williams Individual Middle-weights. L/C Hughes was very unfortunate to get K.O. in the first round of his bout, Williams was very narrowly beaten by Pte. Barden on Points and Manders was more fortunate as he came right through and won the Bantam weight Competition.

Of course "C" Coy. had a fairly good number taking part in the Eastern Command Assault-at-Arms held at Colchester on March 9th. The following were in the Bayonet Fencing Team:— L/C Reed, Pte. Erichsen, Pte. Cribben, Beauchamp and Scott. The last two named are lately from the Depot and promise well for the future. Those of "C" Coy. in the Tug-o-war team were:—C. S. M. Burrell D.C.M. Coach. Sgt. Burt, Sgt. Cox, Pte. Knight, Sgt. Louth, and L/C Torre. Both the above teams unfortunately lost their events in the first Pool. Never mind, better luck perhaps, in "Constant."

An Old Memorial.

WE are indebted to Mrs. Ronald for sending us the following extract from a letter received from her sister, Mrs. Philimore, writing from Bhaugulpore, Behar.

"There is a large place about a mile from here surrounded by a mud wall and with a monument with a cross on top in the middle of it. On this monument is a slab inscribed with the following words:—"Sacred to the memory of officers and soldiers who died here in 1828 belonging to H.M. 3rd Regt. or The Buffs." I hear they were marching through here and, when camping, got cholera, and lost nearly all their officers and men. One can see bricks all over places where there must be graves but most of them are all flattened down."

On referring to Cannon in regard to the above we find the following:—

"One wing embarked from Sydney on January 23rd, 1827, and arrived at Bengal in June: the other wing embarked from Sydney on the 28th November and landed in Calcutta in February 1828. In 1828 and the two following years the regiment was stationed at Bhaugulpore."

Now that we have published this information, we are hoping that perhaps it may be possible for steps to be taken for these graves to be restored, and should any of our readers be able to give us further information relating to this memorial, we should very much like to have it.

Amara's Challenge Accepted.

IT will be remembered that in our February issue the Sergeants of the 2nd Battalion threw out a Challenge to the Sergeants of The 1st Battalion and The Depot in regard to the average length of service of the members of their respective Messes. The grand total of the 2nd Battalion worked out at 667 years 7 months, and the average service at 12 years 10 months.

Now we have sent to us the record of the Members of the Sergeants Mess of the 1st Battalion with the following interesting result, and the compiler says: "It will be a bit of a shock to the 2nd Battalion, but they asked for it. So here it is!" Now we await the Depot.

Service Record up to Nov. 6th, 1921.

RANK.	NAME.	YEARS.	MONTHS.
R.S.M.	Martin	15	1
Bdmr.	Elvin	32	5
R.Q.M.S.	Martin	23	—
Q.M.S. (O.R.)	Evans	10	7
C.S.M.	Barrell	12	11
"	Follett	21	8
"	Mould	13	10
"	Knight	10	—
A/C.S.M.	Goodwin	12	7
C.S.M.I.M.	McWalter ...	12	5
C.Q.M.S.	Kelly	23	8
"	Manning	16	5
A/C.Q.M.S.	Cross	11	2
"	Burt	7	2
Sgt.-Dr.	Norwood	21	9
Bd.-Sgt.	Denny	19	9
Sgt.-Shoemaker	Holmes	31	8
Sgt.-Tailor	Wilson	17	11
Pioneer-Sgt.	Louth	13	11
Sgt.	Burville	8	9
"	Jones	13	—
"	Dixon	14	3
"	Lane	14	3
"	Croucher	19	5
"	Barton	16	2
"	Ludeman	9	1
"	Acres	14	3
"	Curtis	14	5
"	Galloway	18	4
"	Summers	8	4
"	Ravenscroft ...	7	3
"	Kennedy	9	11
"	Hills	14	11
"	Clarke	11	10
"	Collier	16	2
"	Gibson	10	11
"	Boarer	20	2
L/Sgt.	Foote	17	—
"	Watson	13	5
"	Bennett	9	8
"	McLean	11	9
"	McNeir	6	2
"	Parks	6	11
"	Mullen	13	1
"	Amos	15	—
"	Waters	9	1
"	Truby	12	5
"	Emery	7	8
	Total	691	6
	Average:— ...	14	48
Armourer-S/Sgt. Blake, R.A.O.C.		18	6 } Attached
W.O.-Instr. Collins, A.E.C.		11	8 }

Civvies!

In view of the reduction in the price of civilian clothing, the allowance, which, as from 1st April next, will be granted towards the provision of plain clothes on discharge or transfer to the Army Reserve, will be 37/- for warrant officers (Class I and II); 21/- for non-commissioned officers not below sergeant; and 16/- for rank and file.

War History of the Buffs.

By
General the Rt. Hon. Sir Arthur Paget, P.C., G.C.B.,
Colonel of the Buffs.

I THINK your readers may like to hear some particulars of the History of the Buffs, 1914–1919, which is in course of preparation and will, it is hoped, be published during the summer.

The history is being written by Colonel R. S. H. Moody, C.B., an old officer of the regiment, and the lists of killed, awards and decorations are being prepared by the Hon. Sec., Major F. W. Tomlinson. The scheme was actually initiated over a year ago, but the work of research among divisional, brigade and battalion diaries is necessarily slow, especially when it is remembered that we had ten battalions, of which eight were in the field, on five different fronts. In addition every chapter has been submitted to the various officers who commanded battalions at different times, so as to ensure that no inaccuracies have crept in; consequently several chapters have had to be sent to as many as six or seven officers. For instance Chapter 3 has been submitte l to Br. Gen. E. H. Finch Hatton, Colonels Lord Harris, G. V. Dauglish, J. Body, W. A. Eaton, and A. O.'B. ffrench Blake, and to Major G. M. Kingsford. The work of compiling lists of decorations has involved going through every gazette published during the war—many thousands of closely printed pages; and the official casualty lists, which contain a considerable number of mistakes, have been extremely difficult to verify, owing to the impossibility in many cases of getting into touch with the next-of-kin.

I am glad to say, however, that the history is at last well on the way to completion and the Committee now wish to ascertain how many copies can safely be ordered from the printers. It will not be possible to order many copies over and above the number bespoken beforehand, so that on all grounds it is desirable that names should be registered, although payment will not be required until the history is ready for delivery. I wish therefore to appeal to those of your readers who intend to buy a copy, to send their names as early as possible to Major F. W. Tomlinson, Hon. Sec. The Buffs History, 2 Cavendish Square, London, W.1.

In order that the history may be sold at the exact cost of printing, and binding, the Committee has decided to publish the book themselves, thereby considerably reducing the cost to the individual. This will not exceed 7/6, but the exact figure cannot be quoted until the number of intending purchasers is known, because the more purchasers there are, the cheaper will be the book.

The book will be demy octavo ($8\frac{1}{4}$ inches by $5\frac{1}{4}$), printed on stout paper and bound in cloth. It will consist of about 100,000 words, and in addition to lists of fallen, lists of those who gained decorations, or were mentioned in despatches, there will be maps, illustrating different battles, 24 full-page illustrations, and two coloured plates:—one, entitled "A Man of Kent," representing a private of the Buffs, in Khaki, walking along a road in Flanders, from the original painting by Lady Butler, the property of Major-General Sir E. G. T. Bainbridge, K.C.B.; the other entitled "Forward the Buffs," depicting the recapture of Kut, has been generously presented by the artist, Mr. H. Alexander, of the 5th Battalion.

Such a history as I have attempted to describe will be a permanent memorial to those who gave their lives for their country, it will commemorate for all time the gallant deeds of all ranks of the Buffs, and to future generations it will be a source of pride to think that their forbears fought in the ranks of the County Regiment in the cause of civilization in the Great War 1914–1919.

I must remind your readers, however, that the actual cost of writing the history has been considerable and it has been found necessary to make an appeal for donations to meet this charge and so enable the book to be sold at cost price. It had been hoped also to devote any funds remaining towards the continuation of the existing History of the Buffs, 1572–1704 which was written by the late Captain H. R. Knight, so that the present history of the Great War would form Volume 3 of a continuous history of the regiment since its formation 350 years ago. We are still £500 short of the amount at which we aimed and I would ask those of your readers who can afford to do so, to send a donation in addition to their order. I may add that the names of subscribers will be printed at the beginning of the volume and that a donation of two guineas and upwards entitles the donor to a copy of the history. Cheques, payable to the Buffs History Account, should be sent to Major F. W. Tomlinson, the Honorary Secretary, whose address, as has already been stated, is 2 Cavendish Square, London, W.1.

1st Battn. Corporals v. Corporals the Depot.

Constantinople.

CONSTANTINOPLE, capital of the Turkish Empire and headquarters of the Moslem faith stands on the Bosporus, a strait less than a mile wide, connecting the Sea of Marmora with the Black Sea. Uniquely situated and built on several hills, it is one of the most beautiful cities in Europe; and its palaces and mosques with their domes and minarets give the city an imposing appearance from the sea. On the north side an inlet known as The Golden Horn separates the city proper (known by the Turks as Stamboul) from the Christian Town. The Golden Horn forms a splendid harbour about five miles long and half a mile broad, and is bridged at two points, Galata Bridge being the more noted.

Christian Constantinople comprises of (i) Galata, the merchant's quarter; (ii) Pera, the aristocratic quarter; and (iii) Top-Lane, mostly inhabited by Turks and containing the beautiful Palace of Dolmabagche. Stamboul, the Turkish city proper is on the south side of the Golden Horn and contains most of the finest buildings. The most famous mosque is that of St. Sophia. Before the Turks conquered the country in the fifteenth century St. Sophia was a Christian cathedral. It is the grandest example of Byzantine architecture in the world. But the glorious mosaics which enriched the interior have in part been destroyed by the Turks, the remainder being covered with plaster to fit the cathedral for Moslem worship. There have been many struggles between Turk and Christian for the custody of this church each claiming the right of occupation.

View of The Mosque, Constantinople.

STAMBOUL.

In Stamboul are quite 800 mosques, one of magnificence being that of Sultan Soliman. In Stamboul, too, lies the old Serai, within those high walls were the divan and harem of former sultans, and whose famous gate (Sublime Porte) has given its name to the Sultan's government. In Stamboul, streets are mostly ill-paved and crooked; houses are low and small; and business is transacted in bazaars. But Pera, where are to be found the embassies and consulates contain many fine shops, cafes, restaurants and hotels, though even its main street—Grande Rue—is lamentably ill-paved.

On the other side of the Bosporus stands the Turkish town of Scutari, the starting point of the Baghdad Railway, which runs (or is intended to run) via Baghdad to Basra on the Persian Gulf. The Germans, whose influence in Turkey dates from 1898, were very interested in this railway; but so was England, especially at the Persian Gulf end of it.

The population of Constantinople is about 1¼ millions and its chief exports are tobacco, cereals, cotton, coffee, wine, silk and fruits. Its average summer temperature is 74° as compared with 61° in London; and the average winter temperature is 43° while that of London is 39°. But Constantinople has been as hot as 103° and as cold as 13°, quite remarkable extremes.

The journey by sea from England lasts about 13 days and includes the passage of the celebrated Dardanelles, from the Mediterranean into the Sea of Marmora. Here will be seen many of the celebrated Turkish forts, some of which are occupied now by British troops. On the left of the Dardanelles, sailing towards Constantinople, will be seen, too, the hallowed peninsula of Gallipoli of the 29th Division and Anzac fame. It is possible for letters to reach Constantinople from England in under 4 days, via the Orient Express across Europe.

SOME OUTSTANDING FEATURES.

A tremendous amount of space could be taken up in delineating the history of Constantinople. Readers, however, who are interested may look that up for themselves. A few outstanding features may, however, be of interest. Founded, as Byzantium in 7th century B.C., it was rebuilt and made the capital of The Roman Empire by Constantine the Great in A.D. 330. It became the capital of the Ottoman (or Turkish) Empire under Mohammed II in 1453. Here many treaties have been concluded; conferences held to settle the Eastern question ("Shall the Turk stay in Europe?"); massacres of Christians have occurred; etc. In the Great War, as in others, the city was saved by the natural strength of its position; but British submarines torpedoed vessels even in the Golden Horn and airmen bombed the city. At the Armistice, Allied fleets and French troops occupied the city. British troops, including 2nd Battalion The Buffs, also occupied various strategic points on the Straits of Bosphorus and Dardanelles. By the Treaty of Peace (Sevres 1920) Constantinople was to remain the Turkish capital, but the Ottoman Empire in Europe virtually disappeared and Turkey proper became a minor Asiatic state.

The terms of the Treaty of Sevres roused the hostility of the Turkish Nationalists who raised the standard of revolt. The rising was quelled by the landing of Greek troops and the occupation of Adrianople in July 1920. A more formidable movement was initiated in Asia Minor by Mustapha Kemal who, usurping the powers of a dictator seized the equipment of the old Turkish Army and conscripted the peasantry. He attacked the Greeks in the Smyrna area, but the latter were prepared; and, authorized by England and France, a Greek army 90,000 strong successfully reduced the rebel forces to a disorganized rabble.

The Heaquarters of the British Army on the Black Sea is at Constantinople where also resides the British High Commissioner, Vice-Admiral Sir Somerset Gough-Calthorpe K.C.B., The Irish Guards, 2nd Battalion The Buffs and a battalion of the North Staffordshire Regiment are under orders to proceed to the Black Sea Army. The question of evacuation of Constantinople is now under immediate discussion; but before the man in the street jumps to conclusions he would be wise to consider its strategic importance and the Bolshevik menace prevailing to-day.

G. W. P. K.

The 2nd Battalion.

GOOD-BYE Amara! fare-well to your Mud, Incinerators, and Flies; the latter y the way *do* come here in the Winter Time, which puts the "tin hat" on the query as to where they do "hang out" during this period.

At present (Febru ry 2nd) the Battalion is getting busy, ready to move down to Basrah, and embark on the 11th. The advance party (with the Time Expired Details) left here on the 6th, but from what I hear, Measles has delayed the former at Deolabi.

Aboard.

9th February, 1922, and aboard River Boat S. 16 with two Barges attached.

Here we are bound for Basrah at last, bag and baggage. When one glanced round at some of the W.O.'s and Sgts'. Kits, it was to realise that they are similar to "Officers' *Light* Kits" (it would delight a R.T.O.'s heart to actually see one of the latter).

Basrah was reached on the 11th and we drew right alongside the S.S. Vasna, and embarked in record time. By the time we sailed, 10.00 hrs. the 12th, everyone had more or less settled d wn.

B.A.D.S.

After being in abeyance for a great many years The Buffs Amateur Dramatic Society came to life again last Xmas in Amara. If their first performance is any criterion of what is to come, the B.A.D.S. can indeed be called a healthy child and should have a long and useful life. The Xmas Concert revealed the fact that there is no lack of talent in the Battalion, and it is hoped to find still more now that a Society has definitely been formed.

When the Battalion reaches Aden it is hoped to provide a room and a piano where budding performers can have an opportunity of meeting and practising songs, etc. The revival of the B.A.D.S. is greatly due to Capt. G. R. Howe whose efforts, however, were nobly backed up by all the performers who showed great keenness during the monotony of rehearsals. If the New Members joining the Society show the same enthusiasm as the old ones we predict a great future for the B.A.D.S.

The stage was set in tastefully draped black and white and formed an excellent background for the troupe in their mauve costumes.

It would be invidious to pick out any particular "turn" for special comment.

The Sergeants' Mess.

Sgts. Mannering, Ambrose, Freeman, Wilkins and Deeks proceeded with the advance party, but one can hardly picture "King Fey" or Deeko with Measles.

L/Sgts. George, Treleavan, and Gover bid us adieu on proceeding home for discharge, time expired. Each was presented with a memento a sample of Amara Silver Work, by the R.S.M. on behalf of the members of the mess, who in an impromtu speech, expressed regret at their departure, and wished them the best of luck in civilian life.

Needless to say all are now looking forward to Aden and plans have been made by many for an enjoyable time.

A Conversation regarding "Rooty Gongs" took place recently, and one C.S.M. remarked that a £100 had been in his family for years, this amount to be presented to the first one to get the medal. Time is getting on, and he is well in the running and if successful, the odds are that he will add to his "big game hunting outfit."

Billy is going strong as C.S.M., but some of his company are still "advancing in Single File—By the Right"—but there, these Armourers Inspections usually have an un-nerving effect Billy! The Air, I think, has a lot to do with it, as C.S.M. Simon, after eating a fine chicken passed the remark "jolly fine Hare."

A Company.

Our congratulations are due to all those who represented the Coy. in the Battalion Boxing Tournament. They did well in tieing with C Coy. for second place. Special praise is due to Pte. Watts for his game display which earned for him the title of Light-Weight Champion of the Bat talion. Pte. Lay also deserves special mention, being the holder of the Feather Weight Class. Our thanks are also due to Lieut. Hamil-Stewart and Sgt. Liston who organised and trained the Coy. team.

The Inter-platoon Cross-Country Run for the R.A.T.A. Shield took place on the 21st December. Distance about three miles. Each platoon of the Coy. entered their team consisting of six runners; and No. 2 Platoon, the holders of this shield, were successful in retaining it for another year. L/C. Harlow won this race. The first four home of No. 2 Platoon being—L/C. Harlow, Sgt. Ongley, D.C.M., L/C. Hodges, D.C.M., Pte. W. H. Smith, the same four that won the shield in 1920. No. 3 Platoon were second, No. 1 third, so the Coy. had the first three teams home. No. 4 Platoon were ninth, and as this is the boxing platoon, there is a good excuse, for some may have feet a little stiff.

Things seen Aboard The Lugger.

C.Q.M.S. creeping in and out of 2nd class berths, finding the floor rather hard to sleep on, but not so hard as the appearance of the 2nd Saloon at Meal Times.

Q.M.S. Ings finds plenty of exercise as Ship's Q.M.S., dishing out rations. Has been seen, in fact, chasing an evasive ration from Bow to Stern, and running it to earth (I should say deck) in his berth with the exclamation "——Details again, one "joint" messing on two tables, i'll fix him," and with a flourish of his pencil, whilst studying his list whispers "Got Him!"

The R.S.M., as Ship's S.M., making things Buzz especially in the Details Section. All bared their heads in token of respect for him (and incidentally keeping the Barber busy).

Sgt.-Instr. Redshaw (A'vent) S/Sgt. Jackson (Peter) and Sgt. Goldfinch (Chic) washed out of bed second night. out, then closed the "bed room" window the following night!

From to-morrow, the 16th we take to Drill, and away goes our Serge until Southampton in November or December.—Perhaps!

A.B.70

A Company.

Cross Country Running.

On the 23rd December the Eliminating Run to select the Coy. team for the Championship of Mesopotamia took place. The course was one of six miles. Several ditches were met; a strong wind was blowing, and rain came on just as the run was about to start. L/C. Kimber and Sgt. Ongly took the lead, and ran together the first mile. L/C. Harlow joined them here with the remainder of our team just behind. These three kept the lead until the finish, L/C. Harlow running out the winner with L/C. Kimber and Sgt. Ongley close on his heels.

L/C. Hodges, Pte. Marsh and Sgt. Shoobridge ran next, only one other man ever separating our leading six. Pte. Roper a new member of our team ran 8th. Pte. W. H. Smith ran 9th being out eighth man home. Thus we had our eight men in the first nine of the Battalion, thereby winning the privilege to represent The Buffs at Baghdad. Mr. Hamil-Stewart ran 17th in the Battalion for the first time of asking. A few more runs, and he will certainly be up with our leading men. Pte. Parker our 10th man ran 27th he is very small and no doubt the strong wind told against him. The Order of Finish was:—

1st L/C. Harlow, 2nd L/C. Kimber, 3rd Sgt. Ongley, D.C.M., 4th L/C. Hodges, D.C.M., 5th Pte. Marsh, 6th Sgt. Shoobridge, 8th Pte. Roper, 9th Pte. W. H. Smith, 17th Mr. Hamil-Stewart, 27th Pte. Parker. Total points 38. Time of first man home, 31 minutes.

Making Ready for Aden.

Now we find ourselves busy packing up for Aden, where we expect to go on Detachment with E Coy. at "Steamers Point." Water-polo teams have already been raised, and Swimming challenges thrown.

No doubt all will be glad to leave Mespot and its mud behind, though our stay out here has been quite a successful one, the Coy. has made a great name all over Mesopotamia for their splendid achievements in running Shooting has also been one-of our best pastimes, many of the company being in the possession of sporting guns. But Fishing, perhaps has been the foremost of all sport at Amara, almost all possessing a line of some sort. L/C. Rowley has been our most successful angler with some fine catches. Our Sergt.-Major was the most consistent angler, until "traversing and plotting" a new disease in Amara came on the scene, and caused him to see the river no more.

Some Departures.

During the past month L/C. Harlow and Pte. Murray have left us for home, the former going back to civilian life in Australia. This N.C.O. remained behind, when the three years men proceeded home, so as to assist the running team at Baghdad. He was the recipient of a handsome present, the gift of the Company, on his departure and our best wishes go with him.

Pte. Murray goes to the home establishment after serving nearly fifteen years continuously abroad. We shall greatly miss him.

Games Results.

The competition for the "Harris Shield" came to a sudden end, the winners being the Company who obtained most points to the date of closing. We were second. This was rather an unsatisfactory end to what should be the most keennest competition in the Battalion, and we should like to suggest an earlier start this year; also the inclusion of a good many more events so as to add to the interest of this competition and to make it a greater test.

On the 19th January we beat E at Hockey 3-1, our goal scorers being Pte. Murray (2) L/C. Rowe (1).

On the 21st January we beat C at football by 1-0, goal scorer Pte. Bowman; and on the 28th January we beat D Company's strongest team by 2-0, goal scorers being Pte. Bowman and L/C. Whittington.

The 2nd Battalion—*continued.*

D COMPANY.

The move of the battalion to Aden, and all pertaining thereto, must be given as an excuse for no "Don" company notes for January. It follows then that double rations should be served up if the writer is doing his job, which, sad to relate is not made easier by the shyness of N.C.Os. and men in the Company as regards literary contributions.

January came and went without very much of note happening. The only occupation which kept us busy for quite a few nights, and which held quite good chances of bagging a few buddoos in the night patrols unfortunately brought forth no fruit in the Arab line, although a very pathetic story of a jam tart is wrapped round one patrol on which some of the Company were engaged. The days spent on wiring, too, afforded plenty of scope for discussion as to the likely future of that gentlemen responsible for the invention of wire, barbed. If he is not resting in peace, we at least have the knowledge that most of our putties are—in many.

Early in the month we said au-revoir to all our T. X. men. It wasn't "Goodbye," for we knew that many would join up again after a spot of England. At that time we little thought we would see them all again at Delali, waiting for a ship. The very best of luck to all of them, in whatever job each may take up.

Our trip on the Vasna was as good as could have been expected although our "lines" were next door, or rather on the floor below, to an Indian unit, appropriately called a Pack Battery. It certainly entailed "packing" on our part. Warmish weather, a slight roll and somnolent Indians don't seem exactly to harmonise! L/Cpl. Martin showed us that his fists are'nt the only things he can use to advantage, with L/C Arman, he proved that his vocal organs were quite useful, when exhorting us to join in a game of "Housey."

Here at Deolai—where we have been since last Sunday, and expect-to be next Sunday—things are much about the same as one would imagine them to be. It can best be described as the inlet and outlet of India as far as troops are concerned. All those who left us from Multan and Kirkuk will of course remember the place. As regards games, since being here we've played only one hockey match against A. Coy. of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry and this we lost 1—2.

The Paget Gold and Silver Medals.

Finally we all congratulate Sgt. Coaster on his being awarded the "Paget Gold Medal" for 1921 on being elected by the Regimental Sports Committee as "the best all-round athlete of the battalion." Also to Pte. Lee on his election as being the outstanding player at any one game in the battalion viz. hockey, thereby winning the "Paget Silver Medal." That both these coveted awards have been won by two men of "D" Company is especially satisfactory and that the selections were popular, and well earned is without a doubt."

Your Friend.

WHAT is a friend? I will tell you. It is a person with whom you dare to be yourself. Your soul can go naked with him. He seems to ask of you to put on nothing to appear to be nothing, only to be what you are. He does not want you to be better or worse. When you are with him you feel as a prisoner feels who has been declared innocent. You do not have to be on your guard. You can say what you think; express what you feel. He is shocked at nothing, offended at nothing, so long as it is genuinely you. He understands those contradictions in your nature that lead others to mis-judge you. With him you breathe free. You can take off your coat and loosen your collar.

You can avow your little vanities and envies and hates and vicious sparks, your meanness and absurdities, and in opening them up to him they are lost, dissolved in the white ocean of his loyalty. He understands. You do not have to be careful. You can abuse him, neglect him, berate him. Best of all, you can keep still with him. It makes no matter. He likes you. He is like fire, that purifies all you do. He is like water, that cleanses all you say. He is like wine, that warms you to the bone. He understands, he understands he understands. You can weep with him, laugh with him, sin with him, pray with him. Through and underneath it all he sees, knows, and loves—you. A Friend, I repeat, is the one with whom you dare to be yourself.—Dr. Frank Crane, in Footnotes to Life" (John Lane).

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The Zulu War.

(being extracts from the diary of Brig.-Gen. A. J. Whitacre Allen, late The Buffs).

THE colours were now piled, and the band solemnly stacked their instruments and took up their places as stretcher bearers.

Colonel Pearson ordered an immediate attack, and B Company began by having to double about three miles before being able to attack the left horn of the Impi which was endeavouring to get at the line of wagons. This attack was made in conjunction with two companies of R.E. After about three hours hard work the Impis fell back sullenly, followed by our Mounted Infantry supported by long range volleys from the Infantry. Both Colonel Pearson and Lieut.-Col. Parnell had their horses shot under them and we lost in all nine other ranks killed and fifteen wounded. The two native contingent battalions as stated above suffered very severely and lost nearly all their white officers.

A MEMORABLE FIGHT.

This fight, though it would be nothing nowadays, is memorable because not only was it the last occasion on which a British battalion was played into action by its band with colours flying, but also was the first occasion on which a white force coming in contact with a Zulu Impi attacked instead of following the stereotyped rule of forming laager and awaiting the attack behind wagons. It appears too that the only reason why the Zulu did not press their attack home on the line of wagons was their astonishment at finding the initiative taken from them.

On 23rd the column marched into the old mission station of Etyoe, which had a most remarkable grove of orange trees, and at once set to work to prepare it for defence, the idea being to use it as an advanced base for subsequent operations. One curious thing the writer recollects about the 22nd is that many of our Kafirs declared they heard heavy firing on our left flank, which we did not believe, as we knew there were no troops nearer than the centre Column at Rorke's drift very many miles away. We were to hear in a few days of the terrible disaster to the 1st and 2nd Battalions 24th Regiment, which took place at Isandhlawana on 22nd. In this fight Colonel Durnford, R.E., commanding the column and Lieut. Colonel Pullaine, and fifteen Officers of the 24th Regiment (South Wales Borderers) were killed, while nearly the whole other ranks of the 1st Battalion and two companies of the 2nd Battalion 24th Regiment were wiped out. This news was common knowledge among our natives on the evening of the 22nd.

Before long six companies of the 2nd Battalion were besieged in Etyoe and suffered many casualties. Incidentally the force in Etyoe was the only British force remaining any distance in Zululand, the centre column of the attacking force having been almost annihilated, and the northern, or left column, having also received a severe check.

On 25th January, B and H Companies, with two companies of the 99th Regiment, started back for the Tugela to bring up a convoy of food and ammunition; and on the 26th we passed a convoy escorted by C and E Companies on their way to Etyoe. On 27th we reached the Tugela, heard the first definite news about Isandhlawana, and, also, that the country had risen between us and Etyoe; and, further, that we were not to be allowed to return to the regiment until a strong column had been organised. *(To be continued).*

Can You Write?

We are always pleased to consider articles, humorous sketches, and drawings. No article should exceed 600 words and, if you love us dearly as we hope you do, do please write on one side of the paper only, and leave a good space between every line.

Experiences of a Prisoner of War.

Britischer Kriegsgefangener.

By Sgt. P. J. MacMahon.

WHEN I was taken on the 24th April, 1915, after being gassed twice and wounded once, I was marched with the remains of " B " Coy., 2nd Battalion The Buffs, and Canadians from 9.40 in the morning until dark at night to a Belgian Town, where I was put on a steam tram and taken to Courtrai. Here the N.C.O's. of the party were questioned as regards the movements of our troops. I gave such extraordinary replies that I think I was deemed to be mad and I was hurriedly and forcibly ejected from the presence of the august interrogator.

I was then placed in a cattle truck with some 40 others, locked in, and conveyed to Gottingen Camp. During this journey which lasted about forty hours, I had one small slice of bread given to me by the Germans, but an Officer of the Canadians was permitted to purchase for each of us a basin of hot soup which was devoured ravenously.

On arrival at Gottingen we received quite a welcome from the German inhabitants. " Englischer Sweinerei " and other kind remarks with spits and black looks were thrown at us but no one attempted to molest us. They seemed afraid of our Guard. At the Camp which we reached about noon, we were counted and re-counted, and then locked in a bungalow. No food was given that day as we had arrived too late for rations. We hadn't missed much however as next day's issue showed. The food in this camp was scarce and awful. One day we had pea soup for dinner, and the next day we had a soup made from the pods, the Germans didn't waste much I can tell you. I practically starved here for two months until parcels began to arrive from England.

As soon as the parcels began to arrive, and I thought I should be alright for food, I was moved to Munster, where I had to wait again for a fortnight before my parcels were forwarded on. I found out afterwards that this was quite an old game of the Germans this moving from one camp to another, it was part of the punishment not to be allowed to be too comfortable. Besides, as we travelled back and forward through different towns we were shown to the inhabitants as fresh British Prisoners; and at that time they dearly loved to see a Britischer Kriegsgefangener as they termed us.

I was soon moved from Munster to Seeste near Osnabruck, where I heard that British N.C.O's. by some arrangenemt between the Governments need not work. It was explained that by volunteering I could get quite a nice job on a farm with plenty of food, and *home comforts*, etc. But I gibbed and was sent back to Munster. From there I was next sent to Minden which was a punishment camp and contained all N.C.O.'s who had refused to work. " Nix Arbieters " they called us. Here I was told that, if I didn't volunteer for work, I should see nothing but the heavens above and the ground whereon I stood until I did volunteer. Sergeant Barham was with me here, in fact he was with me almost throughout my captivity. We both stuck out that we wouldn't work and after punishment drills and close confinement were sent to Grossenweder Moor.

The Dartmoor of Germany.

This was the " Dartmoor " of Germany. Here, for nine months, together with some 500 others divided in squads of 30, I marched round in a circle about thirty yards in diameter for nine hours a day, day in and day out, and in all weathers throughout the winter of 1916—1917. But I would not give in and volunteer for work. This winter was exceptionally cold and there was nine inches of frost at this place at one time I remember.

At this camp I was made to stand to " Attention " in a puddle of water which covered my feet for two hours until I was frozen in. I had only slippers on and when the two hours were up I had to be knocked out of the ice with the rifles of the sentries as I couldn't move of my own accord. When I got back to my hut Sergeant Barham had hot oatmeal ready for me and he and a chum named " Daddy Light " of the " Queens," chaffed my limbs back to life. I was cold for days after, it seemed as if there were chunks of ice in my blood that would not thaw.

As the Spring came on and they found I wouldn't work, I was sent to Strohen Moor Camp which was a punishment camp for Officers, there to do Officers' servant. I met Lieut. Jackson (the Rugby player) there, and I believe that Captain Haymen and Lieut. Burnie were there also but I didn't see them. Here I refused to do servant on the grounds that it was degrading my rank, but really on account of the knowledge that I was doing a Private out of a job that would enable him to escape the mines, he having no right to refuse work whereas I was within my right in so doing. Sergeant Mercer was here with me and he also stuck it out, and we both got put on a filthy job as punishment until our reliefs arrived.

Right glad we were when we saw the poor fellows our refusal had fetched out of the mines to relieve us. They were practically starving and shewed marks of great hardship and maltreatment. They had been in the Hartz Mountains. One of them, I heard went mad afterwards and had to be placed in an asylum*

I was next sent to Hameln, where I was placed on a job in the Prisoners Post Office sorting letters for ourselves. As this was for our own benefit I could not refuse to work so carried on with the snapping. I worked here until March, 1918, when I was repatriated to Holland, and finally, to dear old Blighty. Hooray! Liberty at last after three years and seven months a Britischer Kriesgefangener otherwise a British Prisoner of War.

*[*An officer who was a prisoner of war, and who has seen this article writes* :— *" N.C.O's had such an infinitely better time than the men, that you can scarcely compare the two. I remember occassionally when some of our orderlies got the sack and new ones came from Lagers, they arrived looking simply broken—I can't tell you what their expressions were like, but it was the most haunting and tragic thing to see them. And then, after a few days, when they had talked to their own officers and been spoken to like men and not like beasts of the field as they had for so long been accustomed, they changed completely and the light came back into their eyes.*

Bow Wow ?

THIS from the Agony Column of *The Times* of 21st March.

K. B.—More and more, every day, does it become certain that " The Dragon " is endeavouring to do all the harm and cause all the distress possible. Avoid him as the plague, lest he poison your mind with infamous suggestions, which, at present, I cannot refute.—R.B.

So that's what the Old Duck does when he goes on week-end pass.

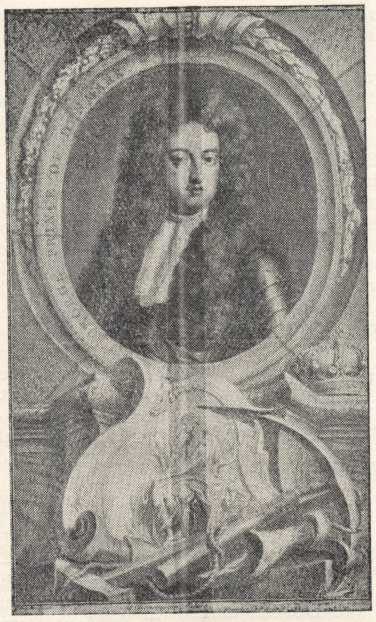
Every Little Helps.

IF you do not keep your Dragons for binding or future reference, we would like you to pass on each number, when you have finished with it, to another, whom you think might be interested ; or, failing that, to return it to us to enable us to do this for you.

Colonels of the Buffs.

No. 7. Charles Churchill, *Colonel of the Buffs*, 1688–1707.

WHEN Oglethorpe was outlawed and followed James II. to France, the colonelcy of the Holland Regiment was bestowed on Lieut.-Col. Charles Churchill, third surviving son of Sir Winston Churchill and brother of the famous John Churchill, first Duke of Marlborough.* Born in 1656, he was appointed Page of Honour to Christian V., King of Denmark, at the age of 13, and a few years later gentleman of the bedchamber to Prince George of Denmark, husband of the Princess Anne. He figured conspicuously at the battle of Landen (Neerwinden), 1693, where he captured his own nephew, the Duke of Berwick, illegitimate son of James II. by Arabella Churchill; he gained further laurels at Blenheim and Ramillies. He married, in 1702, Mary, daughter and heiress of James Gould of Dorchester, by whom he had no children. He left however two sons, both called Charles, one of whom served later in his father's regiment. He was appointed in 1707 to the colonelcy of the 2nd Foot Guards and died seven years afterwards. He was buried in Mintern Church in Dorsetshire where a monument was erected to his memory.



It is curious that Churchill should as a boy have been connected both with the King of Denmark and his son George, and that the latter should have ultimately become the titular head of the regiment. Curious too that the Holland Regiment should often have furnished detachments to guard the persons of this same Prince George and his wife, the Princess Anne—long before it became "Prince George of Denmark's Regiment," in 1689; and that Prince George's connection with the regiment should have been practically contemporaneous with Churchill's, for whilst the latter was promoted in 1707, the former died in 1708.

The circumstances which led to the change of title and precedence of the Holland Regiment are interesting, but rather confusing: so confusing in fact that they have given rise to the legend that the Royal Marines are an offshoot from the Buffs. When the Duke of York came to the throne as James II., he bestowed the command of his (Maritime) regiment (also known as the Lord High Admiral's) on his son-in-law, Prince George. This regiment was third in order of precedence. In 1689, for a reason which has never become apparent, it was suddenly disbanded when under orders for Holland and Prince George was given the honorary colonelcy of the next regiment in order of precedence (the Holland Regiment) which thus became the third regiment of foot and dropped its title of Holland Regiment for that of Prince George, Hereditary Prince of Denmark's Regiment. Consequently, within a few days, there existed on the establishment two regiments, both having the same order of precedence, the same official designation and the same Colonel, yet having no connection whatever in any other sense.

It must be confessed that Prince George was a dull dog, and rather an irritating one into the bargain. He had a habit when told a piece of news, good or bad, of invariably exclaiming "Est il possible!" When William of Orange, who had landed at Torbay on November 5th, was nearing Andover where King James had his headquarters, Prince George, who had supped overnight with his Majesty, mounted his horse and fled under cover of darkness. When awoke with the news of his son-in-law's desertion, James's only remark was:—"What! Is 'Est il possible' gone, too? After all, a good trooper would have been a greater loss."

F.W.T.

**This article is illustrated with a reproduction of Prince George of Denmark, as the writer's collection of prints does not include one of Charles Churchill; the present Duke of Marlborough writes:—"I have never been able to find either a picture or a print of Colonel Charles Churchill. Considering the military work he did for his distinguished brother it is very strange that no picture should exist of him."*

Philip Stanhope.

2nd Earl of Chesterfield.

WE are indebted to Mr. W. R. Davies (Kingsclear, Camberley), a new subscriber to the *Dragon*, for some additional facts in connection with Philip Stanhope, 2nd Earl of Chesterfield, the subject of our February article entitled Colonels of the Buffs. The lady whose name was "thrice called" in St. Martin's Church was Mary Fairfax, only daughter of Lord Fairfax the famous Commonwealth General. She afterwards married George Villiers, 2nd Duke of Buckingham.

He suggests that it is scarcely correct to say that the letters of the 2nd Earl are widely read; the famous "Letters written by the Earl of Chesterfield to his son," might be so described, but the author of these was the 4th Earl.

He points out that it was not made quite clear in the article on John Sheffield that he was not the builder of the Buckingham Palace which we all know, but of a far smaller mansion, of red brick, which was called Buckingham House and afterwards incorporated in Buckingham Palace which is several times as large as the original house.

Thanks very much.

THE following is a further list of those who have brought their subscriptions to the *Dragon* for 1922 up to the higher rate as suggested in the article "A practical suggestion" which appeared in our Christmas number

Maj.-Gen. Sir Guy Bainbridge, Colonel S. G. Sargent, Bt.-Major W. R. Corrall, Major G. A. E. Chapman, Major H. S. Hardy, M.B.E., M.C., Major G. T. D. Hickman, Major R. G. A. Marriott, Major H. W. Ward (also 15/- for J. B. Girdwood), Messrs. E. Boulding T. W. Charlton, R. W. Leonard, G. E. Lord, C. S. Martin, H. P. P. Robertson.

"English as She is Spoke."

WE are indebted to Lt.-Col. W. H. Trevor for sending us the following latest specimen of Babau "English as she is spoke."

To The Officer Commanding,
1/5th Sikhs,
Kirkuk.

Sir,

It is with heavy heart and wist of Sorrow caused by the impending circumstances that I beg leave to approach your Honour: blessed with Justice and gifted with generosity and possessed with rare qualities of head and heart—with the following few lines and am confident that by favourable consideration your Honour will completely conquer me and leave an indelible impression of your worthiness upon my mind:—That I am attached to your Regiment for rations and accomodation both of which I find against my position, rank and temper.

The deficiency of accommodation was realised by the Adjutant Sahib who happened to be twice in my tent and gave me sparkling hope that he would get a larger tent for me but it has proved to be a mere verbal one because no indent has been sent to the Brigade. Besides this deficiency the sun falling on my head from above, ground burning from below and the obnoxious smells coming from all sides respectively of mules, excrement, latrines, kitchen oil machines and blackening of my luggage, clothes, furniture, bedding, etc., by millions of black (carbon sooth) pieces coming from Sappers and Miners kitchen on the right and our own kitchen no the left blast me so much that I prefer death to my present situation.

It is needless for me to sound the trumpet of my own praises to show that I am one:—

(1) Who immediately responded to A.G.'s wire for my overseas service.
(2) Who discharged my duties energetically, enthusiastically and faithfully from 10 a.m. to 20 p.m.
(3) Who helped greatly in Indian Imperial Relief Fund in War Time.
(4) Who has been an active member of the "War Service League" of the Foreman Christian College in his B.S.C. courses.
(5) Who was awarded a "Certificate" of Honour and Silver medal for his meritorious Services during the last Coronation Durban.
(6) Who proved equally useful to the Govnt. and Country by his social works during Influenza and Famine.
(7) Who stood first in University examination and has brilliant career.
(8) Who has got such unusual remarks from his Principal and Professors.
   (*a*) He entered into the spirit of the Institution and tried to regulate his life by its ideal.
   (*b*) He is one of those gentlemen on whose life and conduct the stamp of our College ideal may be seen at its best.

After considering those and so many others of the same type I leave it to your justice if your Honour deem it right that when I came back to my tent at 20.30 p.m. after hard day's work I should go empty stomach in future as I have been doing in the past occasionally.

I trust in your Honours keen discerning and sympathetic eye and cheerful face sparkling with smiles and beaming with kindness and goodwill to all and am confident that justice will be done to my wrongs and grievences by allotting me a better tent and providing me with an orderly to provide me suitable food after my hard day's labours.

(Signed) PINARE LALL NARANG.

The Canadian Dragon.

IT is with much pleasure that we are able to publish the following letter received by General the Hon. Sir Arthur Paget, Colonel of The Buffs, from the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

Dear Sir,

It having been decided to start a Regimental Journal in the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada, we should be honoured if you would permit us to use the title "The Canadian Dragon" for our publication; as we feel that it not only sets us a very high standard to live up to, but will also serve to bind still stronger the ties which now unite us with our "Parent Regiment."

Yours very truly,
R. HAYWARD, CAPT.,
for Brig.-General Commanding
Toronto. Queen's Own Rifles of Canada.

Now before giving a few brief particulars as to how it came about that ourselves and the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada became affiliated we feel sure that our readers would first like us to extend to our coming contemporary every good wish and a long period of unbroken success, during which we may arrange for a mutual exchange of our respective publications.

THE AFFILIATION.

The first actual acquaintance between the Buffs and the Queen's Own Rifles took place at Aldershot, where the 1st Battalion then was, in September, 1910; the Queen's Own had been brought over at his own expense by Colonel Sir Henry Pellett in order to take part in manoeuvres. The most friendly feeling very soon grew up between the two regiments, inspired in the first place no doubt by the fact that both used the same march. (Permission for the Queen's Own to use this had been granted by the Buffs over 40 years before). They carried out a 13-mile route march together on one occasion: and on its departure from Aldershot the "Crippen" draft was played to the station by the magnificent band of the Queen's Own.

Immediately after the return of the battalion to Toronto, steps were taken to bring about an affiliation with the Buffs, but it was not until 1914 that this was finally accomplished when the following appeared in Militia Orders:—His Majesty has been graciously pleased to approve of the 2nd Regiment Queen's Own Rifles of Canada being made an allied regiment of the Buffs (East Kent Regiment); dated 21st February, 1914.

On 23rd April, 1914, a dinner was held simultaneously at Fermoy (where the 1st Battalion was quartered) and Toronto; direct cable communication between the two battalions was established and friendly messages of congratulation were exchanged. The closing words of Colonel Hill's speech on behalf of the 1st Battalion were as follows:—"May we fight shoulder to shoulder with you if ever we are called upon to defend the Empire again in the name of the King." Exactly one year later, on 23rd April, 1915, the day following the first gas attack, men of both regiments were literally fighting shoulder to shoulder, in the same bloody trenches near St. Julien, where a company of the 2nd Battalion was sent to reinforce the Canadian left. And there many of them, still shoulder to shoulder, found their last resting-place.

F.W.T.

ON PULLING TOGETHER.

We would appeal to all readers to back, whenever and wherever they can, the firms which are backing our venture with their advertisements. These houses are all of high reputation and they display sound commodities which are at all times in greater or less request. And please mention the *Dragon* when giving your order.

The Ladies.

By The Lady Editress.

THE Bonny Buff Baby this month is Percival James, the son and Heir of C.S.M. P. (Jinks) Stroud, late of the 2nd Battalion, and now serving on the permanent Staff of the 4th Battalion. His age is 14 months and he weighs 1 stone, 9 lbs., 9 oz., and here I am of course referring to Percival James and not to Jinks the proud father. I have also received a delightful photograph of William John, the son of C.Q.M.S. Austen of the 1st Battalion. But this I must hold over till next month when you will see how William John is making ready at the age of 1 year 7 months to become the Carpentier of Army Boxing! Also next month, I look forward to publishing a charming photograph of Bubbles Dare, the winner of a prize at the recent Baby Show held at Canterbury.

Baby Bonnet Competition.

For this competition 6 entries were received, and the prizes have been awarded as follows:

1st Prize, 10/- each.

Mrs. Crawley, 40 Union St., Canterbury, White Knitted Bonnet.

Mrs. F. McDermott, 89 St. Peter's Grove, Canterbury, White Crochet Bonnet, lined pale blue.

Consolation Prize 5/-.

Miss W. L. Foster, Depot The Buffs, White Crochet Bonnet, lined pale blue.

And the other entries were:—

Mrs. Skeer, Mafeking House, High Street, Lyminge. Boy's White Crochet Bonnet (edged pale blue).

Mrs. Smith, Thistledene, Albion Road, Broadstairs. Pale Blue Knitted Bonnet.

Mrs. Strettell, 17 Earlfield Road, Hythe, Kent, White Woollen Bonnet (trimmed swansdown).

Ourselves and The Buffs Benevolent Fund.

Now it will be remembered, that these competitions have been started to assist the Buffs Benevolent Fund just as much as to afford amusement amongst ourselves; and I confess to some disappointment at not having received any more offers for the knitted articles still left on my hands for disposal. I can assure my readers that there is not one of these that is not well worth having; and I am hoping that this month will see everything sold, and the Benevolent Fund, which is doing such valuable work, benefitting accordingly.

Below will be found a complete list of the knitted articles still for sale, and for each of which I am prepared to accept any reasonable offer against the prices shown, these being suggested by William Lefevre, Ltd., as being fair ones to ask. Whilst in regard to the Baby Bonnets, I am hoping I may ask 5/- for each of these sent in by the prize winners, and 5/- for each of the others, though here again I am ready to consider any reasonable offers. And I am equally ready to send any article on approval.

Still for Sale.

Blue knitted frock, 18 in., value 6/-.
White Polka Jacket, value 5/6.
White Polka Jacket, value 4/6.
Red Knitted frock, 24 in., value 9/-.
Saxe knitted frock, 20 in., value 6/6.
Child's Knitted Cap and White Polka Jacket, value 6/6.
Two pairs Men's Brown Socks, value 6/6.
Two paors Men's Brown Socks, balue 3/- per pair.

Another Competition?

Nothing now remains to me except to thank all who have entered these competitions for their support, and to ask my readers whether they would like these competitions to be continued, and, if so, the form they should take. Also to thank Mrs. Smith of Albion Road, Broadstairs, for very kindly sending me a child's knitted cap and white polka jacket, which have been added to the appended list of articles still for sale.

Vanity Fair.

A CONTEMPORARY suggests that the following verses, written by William Whitehead, Poet Laureate, and printed in "A Collection of Poems by Several Hands," published 164 years ago, are "rather appropriate to the present day":—I wonder!

Ye belles, and ye flirts, and ye pert little things,
Who trip in this frolicsome round,
Pray tell me from whence this indecency springs,
The sexes at once to confound:
What means the cock'd hat and the masculine air,
With each motion designed to perplex,
Bright eyes were intended to languish, not stare,
And softness the test of your sex.

The girl who on beauty depends for support,
May call ev'ry art to her aid:
The bosom display'd, and the petticoat short,
Are samples she gives of her trade.
But you, on whom Fortune indulgently smiles,
And whom Pride has preservid from the snare;
Should slily attack us with coyness and wiles,
Not with open and insolent air.

The Venus whose statue delights all mankind
Shrinks modestly back from the view,
And kindly shou'd seem by the artist design'd
To serve as a model for you.
Then learn with her beauties to copy her air,
Nor venture too much to reveal;
Our fancies will paint what you cover with care,
And double each charm you conceal.

The blushes of Morn, and the mildness of May,
Are charms which no art can procure,
Oh! be but yourselves, and our homage we pay,
And your empire is solid and sure.
But if Amazon-like you attack your gallants,
And put us in fear of our lives,
You may do very well for sisters and aunts,
But believe me you'll never be wives.

J. HUNT & SONS

Drapers, Men's Hosiers
House Furnishers

LARGE STOCKS OF
RELIABLE & HIGH CLASS GOODS
AT POPULAR PRICES

1—6 Mercery Lane, CANTERBURY

The Fairy Ring.

OUR SERIAL STORY.

Chapter VI.

"NO, ma'am, the inquest is not yet finished, but the cor ner is now summing up and the verdict is expected in half an hour."

Maureen replaced the receiver wearily, and returned once more to the luxurious Chesterfield in front of the fire. She bore traces of her long ordeal; her face was of an ethereal pallor; and from time to time she passed a small and exquisitely shaped hand across her eyes.

At last her self-control left her; and rising desperately to her feet, she stretched her arms upwards in a wild gesture of invocation.

"Oh! God"; she cried hoarsely "how long?"

She shrank back in horror as she saw reflected in the mirror the ugly bruises on her white skin; and her mind reluctantly recalled the sordid circumstances in which she had received this cruel testimony of her husband's vicious brutality; that last night in the ship, when Bunter, maddened by drink, had suspected her complicity in the disappearance of the ring; and later his unwelcome advances which only the happy intervention of sleep induced by alcoholic excess had terminated.

An electric bell sounded faintly. She started from her reverie and caught her breath.

"Mrs. Bunter will receive you in the large drawing-room, Massa Taylor" spoke Pete, the white-haired Virginian negro, the chief servitor in the Bunter establishment.

Instinctively Maureen glanced hurriedly at the massive mirror that hung above the fireplace. Satisfied with her appearance she turned to receive the man who had brought so much trouble, and yet so infinitely more joy into her loveless life.

"Hugh" she said advancing to meet him "I am so tired."

"Dear lady" replied Hugh "how can I compensate you for the trouble that I have led you into?"

"By tellin: me that you are free from all taint of suspicion and that you will return no more to Sing Sing" she replied, already in his arms.

Hugh briefly recounted to her the events of the day and then, noticing his obvious fatigue, she apologised for her neglect and offered him refreshment.

* * * *

"My sister and I were born in the little village of Clonsuka in Ireland" said Maureen. "Our parents were poor but respectable. I always longed for excitement and adventure, but poor dear Sheila was always the homely one." At the mention of his loved one, Hugh averted his face for a moment; Maureen proceeded. "When I was sixteen I ran away from home and emigrated to America. How often since then I have wished to God I never had, for what a life I have had!" The memories thus evoked caused her to sigh bitterly. "But never mind" she went on bravely, "Why should I worry you with my pitiful story?"

"Do go on" said Hugh, now intensely interested.

"My arrival, penniless, in this inhospitable city, soon impaired my health, and often I hardly knew where to turn for my next crust.....With a feeling of despair I sought the only organisation that offered an assistance to women in my position and was given a meal and a bed. Next morning Providence arrived in the shape of Silas, and though from the first there was something about him that frightened me I could not resist this opportunity of securing protection."

Hugh's hand sought hers "My poor little girl" he murmured caressingly, for Maureen had dissolved into tears.

She recovered herself and proceeded.

"I entered the service of the Bunter family as maid to the late Mrs. Bunter, who died a week later in giving birth to a still-born child. I married him. And I was filled with a terrified loathing of this monster when I met you on the ship, returning from our honeymoon. As long as I kept my looks I knew that I should satisfy him, for his chief delight was to parade me before the world loaded with the jewels and costly clothes which he thrust upon me. I represented an achievement in his life: I was an earnest of his success. There was no tenderness in his composition; but worse than all, I also realized that I was the unwilling means to his hands of encompassing the death of many people in my part of Ireland, whose families had for generations shown kindness to mine and many like mine."

"Do you mean—" began Hugh, as she paused in her narrative.

"Yes" she replied, divining his meaning "he is the head of a vast American Organization whose object it is to embarrass the British Government in their relations with my country."

"What is this organization?" exclaimed Hugh excitedly.

"It is called the Fairy Ring" replied Maureen, in a hoarse whisper, as she gazed apprehensively round the room.

(To be continued).

Army Encyclopædia.

DUTY.—A privilege confined in the Army only to those for whom staff employment cannot be found. Although duty comprises the bulk of the "donkey-work" of the service, it by no means follows that those whose privilege is to do it are asses, despite frequent assertions to that effect which emanate at times from the realms of the brass hats.

DUTY (MEDICINE AND).—A form of medical treatment which is very popular amongst medical officers, especially on the mornings preceding a long route march.

EAR.—The organ of hearing, which organ is, during the initial stages of a recruit's training, remarkable for the large number of its "stops." That by which the mess pianist usually plays, and by which the members present suffer.

EARWIGS.—Long natural hair growing in abundance over the ears of orderly room clerks, intended, it is thought, for use as penwipers. Usually allowed to grow in wild profusion all over the head.

EDUCATION.—That which is, amongst the benefits derived from Army Schools, second only in importance to an Army School Certificate. Enables a man to distinguish "A" from a bull's foot, and a butt marker from a bull's eye.

ENLISTMENT.—An exceedingly important event in the lifetime of the Soldier, the remoteness of the date of which has always been, and will always be, a Source of great controversy between himself and his comrades.

(SEE KOPPED—BOBBED—KAYMUP).

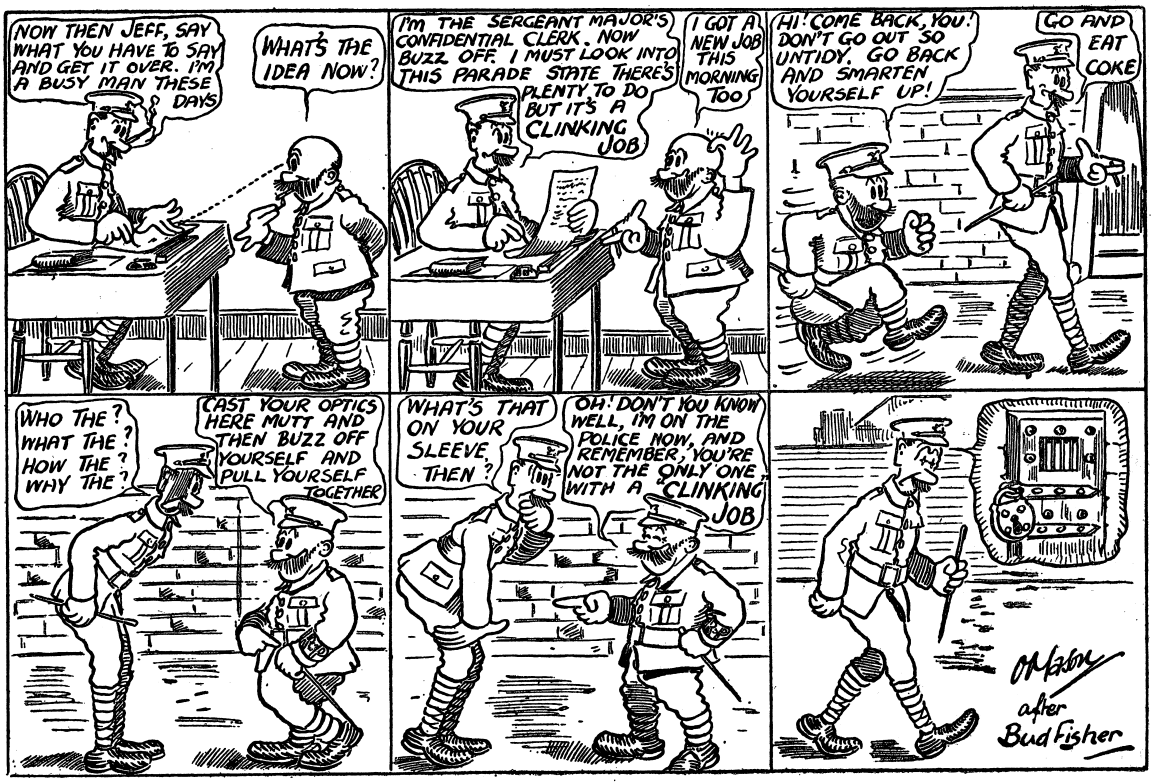
EQUIPMENT.—The only weight the Soldier carries in peace time.

EYEWASH.—A paradoxical process designed to throw dust in the eyes of other people.

Don't forget that if you have anything to sell, or if there is anything you want to buy, we will gladly publish your requirements in The Dragon free of all charge.

Short articles, sketches, and drawings are always acceptable for The Dragon.

Mutt and Jeff.



Enquiry Bureau.

CONDUCTED BY AN OLD BUFFER.

"I WONDER if you can find out for me the origin of the word batman?" writes a correspondent.

Now the best answer I am able to give him is the following extract taken from James's Military Dictionary of 1810:—

"Bat-Men (or Bau-Men) were originally servants hired in war-time to take care of the horses belonging to the train of artillery, bakery, baggage, etc. They generally wear King's livery during their service. Men who are excused regimental duty for the specific purpose of attending to horses belonging to their officers are called batmen."

The word, batman is, of course, derived from the French *bat*, a packsaddle, and seems to have been pronounced originally "bauman" (Brit., Military Library, Vol. 1, p. 163).

If any of my readers can amplify this information I hope he will do so.

ADDRESSES WANTED.

Lt. King of the 2nd Battalion writes me as follows:—"Can you find out where Pte. Stedman J. is now living. He was my servant in the 1st Battalion from November 18th to March 19th and I should like to communicate with him. He used to live in or near Ashford."

This is an address I have been unable to trace, and, if a reader knows it, I hope he will send it to *The Dragon* as well as to Mr. King.

And here also is a letter from Colonel Moody.

Dear Sir,

I would be very grateful if anyone would tell me what has become of Robert Lacey. He was Colour Sergeant of A Coy., 1st Battalion when I left, in the beginning of 1900.

We were good friends and in April 1895 he, I, and a man named Willis, whom I have also lost sight of, did the longest day's march I remember, which included the ascent of the Larem mountain on the way to Chitral.

Lacey was a great athlete and mile runner and went I think to some Indian Volunteer Corps.

Yours etc.,
R. S. H. MOODY, Col.,

9 Military Knights Qrs.,
Windsor Castle.

THE 8TH BATTALION.

Mr. T. Rowlatt Hubbard writing from Craigmore, Quornmore Road, Bromley, asks me to let him know which division the 8th Battalion The Buffs was in during July and August, 1916.

From the 15th July to the 3rd September. 1916, the 8th Battalion was engaged in the Battle of Delville Wood and formed part of the 72nd Infantry Brigade of the 24th Division.

WRITE TO THE DRAGON ABOUT IT.

Perhaps a few words here about our Inquiry Bureau will not be amiss. Through it, I am glad to say, we have been able to put quite a number of old friends in touch with each other, and to give a certain amount of other information. But all of us working on the paper would like to see it more used. We are ready to do our utmost to answer any question put to us, not only in regard to things regimental but also on general matters. So if there is anything you want to know write to *The Dragon* about it.

Past and Present Association.

BALANCE SHEET FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1921.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
Bt. fd. from 1920 ...	63	7	3
Subs. Life & Ordinary	192	5	6
Lunches Ckt. Week ...	1	3	0
Subs., Dinner ...	48	7	6
Refund playing Cards	2	10	0
Donations to wreaths	0	12	0
Int. on £100 W. Loan	3	10	0
Bank Interest on %	1	8	9
	£313	4	0

PAYMENTS.	£	s.	d.
Tents, 1920	7	0	0
Printing	11	9	6
Badges	6	4	7
Publicity	2	14	9
Postage & Stationery	9	7	0
Cricket Week ...	11	15	11
Holborn Rest. ...	58	4	11
Bandsmens' Dinner ...	7	7	0
Presentation	4	12	6
At Cap. & Count. Bk.	180	3	0
At Cox's Bank ...	14	4	9
In hand	0	0	1
	£313	4	0

Signed { E. F. GOULD. J. R. WILLOWS.

*Canterbury Cricket Week Club.

BALANCE SHEET UP TO JANUARY, 1922.

ASSETS. Jan., 1922.	£	s.	d.
Cash in Bank ...	4	7	4
Cash in Hand... ...	2	6	6½
War Saving Certificates	124	0	0
	£130	13	10½

LIABILITIES. Jan., 1922	£	s.	d.
Stationery	0	2	0
Balance Credit ...	130	11	10½
	£130	13	10½

Buffs Cottage Homes.

ACCOUNTS FOR 1921.

Cr.	£	s.	d.
Jan. 1. Balance in hand at Lloyd's Bank, Margate	77	16	9
Jan. 1. Balance in hand at Cox's	21	6	10
Dec. 31. Subscriptions to date	45	11	0
Dec. 31. Interest on investments, etc. ...	43	12	4
Jan. 1. Petty cash account —balance from 1920	0	0	2
May 26. Petty cash account balance from Colonel Jackson	0	5	0
Dec. 31. Secretary, in hand	0	4	3
	£188	16	4

DR.	£	s.	d.
Rates	15	2	4
Insurance	2	0	8
Medical attendance (Sergt. Armistead) ...	1	16	6
Petty cash account— tithes	0	7	3
Postage charged by Cox	0	1	0
Dec. 31. Balance in hand	169	8	7
	£188	16	4

Buffs Regimental Dinner Club.

BALANCE SHEET FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1921.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1920 ...	47	4	10
Subscription, 1921 ...	73	5	0
	£120	9	10

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
Dinner	30	6	2
Band	7	7	0
Publicity	9	7	0
Printing	3	6	6
Postage	1	2	11
Balance at Bank ...	69	0	3
	£120	9	10

Dragon Club.

BALANCE SHEET FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1921.

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1920 ...	25	11	6
By Subscriptions ...	68	4	0
	£93	15	6

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.
Dinner...	28	14	0
Printing	3	4	3
Publicity	1	16	0
Postage	0	19	7
Bank Charges ...	0	1	0
Balance at Bank ...	59	0	8
	£93	15	6

Depot The Buffs Benevolent Fund.

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
Cr. of Fund... ...	3729	7	1
	£3729	7	1

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
At Cox & Co. ...	36	16	4
At Capital & Counties	253	16	8
By Investments, detailed in Cash Book	3438	14	1
	£3729	7	1

The Dragon.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS UP TO FEBRUARY 28TH.

ASSETS.	£	s.	d.
Balance Cash in Hand	14	12	1½
do. at Bank ...	202	1	7
Advertisers	45	12	0
2nd Bn. (supplies) ...	36	0	0
4th Bn.	11	11	0
Agents...	26	10	9
Officers' Mess (Depot)	0	2	0
Lee & Sons	0	8	10
Chambers	7	10	2
Palmer	2	3	4
Bound Volumes ...	3	0	0
Typewriter, duplicator & office furniture ...	25	0	0
	£374	11	9½

LIABILITIES.	£	s.	d.
Subscribers	119	0	2
Gibbs & Sons ...	47	5	10
Press Etching Co. ...	3	12	0
Advertisers	19	1	6
Goulden's Ltd. ...	0	9	1
Balance, Credit ...	185	3	2½
	£374	11	9½

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Baker.—On the 5th March, 1922, at Faversham, the wife of No. 6278408 L/Sergt. F. Baker, 1st Buffs.—a daughter (Kathleen Patricia).

Bourner.—At Dover, on 16/1/22, the wife of 6281219 Pte. C. Bourner, 4th Bn., a daughter (Enid Harwood.)

Gould.—On the 10th March, at Canterbury, Jeanne (*nee* Liaume), wife of Major E. F. Gould, The Buffs, of a son.

Vant.—At Fermoy on 18/1/22, the wife of 6278231 Cpl. G. Vant, a daughter, Johanna Albertina Rosa.

ENGAGEMENTS.

The engagement is announced between M. Philip E. Harrisson, late the Buffs and R.A.F., eldest son of Major A. H. P. Harrisson, late the King's Regiment, and Mrs. Harrisson, of Greenhill Farm, Farnham, Surrey, and Nesta, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Neve, of Johannesburg, South Africa.

A marriage has been arranged, and will shortly take place, between Major Rowland P. S. Elderton, late A.S.C., Assistant Financial Secretary, Sudan Government, youngest and only surviving son of the late Major-General Arthur Elderton, and of Mrs. Elderton, 10 Cornwall Mansions, Kensington Court, W., and Gladys Maud, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. W. Hervey, East Bilney Hall, Dereham, Norfolk.

MARRIAGES.

Ravenscroft.—At Fermoy, on the 25th January, 1922, 6279138 Sgt. R. Ravenscroft.

Lambert—Darracott.—At Upper Deal on the 18th March, Mr. Arthur Lambert, late the Buffs, and only son of the Mayor of Deal (Councillor A. W. Lambert) to Vera Maud, only daughter of Alderman and Mrs. C. R. Darracott.

DEATHS.

Summers.—At Fermoy on the 26th January, 1922, Dorothy Queenie, the daughter of 6280682 Sgt. R. Summers.

Tassell.—At Maidstone on March 9th, C.Q.M.S. Tassell, late The Buffs.

*The Cricket Week Club.

We are asked by the Hon. Sec. of the above Club to make the following statement:—

"The subscription to the Canterbury Cricket Week Club has again been reduced to its old amount namely £1 yearly, payable on May 1st.

This subscription should be sufficient to meet the annual expenses providing all serving officers become members of the Club."

"Beneath Bell Harry."

By Treadmill.

THIS month has been full of events. Our late C.O., Major J. Crookenden, D.S.O., has left us on completion of his 3 years of command and Major G. Lee, D.S.O., has arrived and assumed command.

Major E. F. Gould has left the Depot and Capt. R. H. Pinhey has taken his place. On the eve of his departure Major Golly Gould became the proud father of a little golly and is spending a few days leave in Canterbury with his family, who are all doing very well.

The news that the 1st Battalion is bound for Constantinople has been received with envy by the younger members of the Depot, who immediately conjure up pictures of harems full of mysteriously beautiful women, the Arabian nights, cheap cigarettes, sherbet, coffee, hookahs and turkish delight. What more could a young man desire? I am told, too, that there is excellent mixed bathing. The older and saner warriors conjure up visions of uncomfortable barracks, mosquitoes, smells, bad roads, hot sleepless nights and fatigue parties galore on budding cricket grounds, tennis grounds, etc. I hope that neither vision is correct in its entirety.

The last few days have been remarkably fine and sunny, so different from the 108 miles an hour hurricane we experienced only a few days previously, when a large gate and a tree were blown down and a window in the musketry store blown in.

The Sergeants' Mess.

How rapidly the months do slip by, to be sure! And even years, in these days of ups-and-downs, don't seem to take so long to pass, not by a long chalk, as was their wont a decade ago, (put it all down to the War, eh), and the old, old wish of "Many Happy Returns of the Day" comes all too speedily; making some of us old soldiers ("Old," mind you, with G. C. Medals imperspective) wonder less why our dear old locks are becoming tinged with streaks of grey. But why this animadversion on the "Fugitting of Tempus?" We have lost our old Commanding Officer and his term of command (3 years) has indeed gone all too fast. It barely seems twelve months since he came here to be a father to the Depot, and he left us (we know with regret) on March 10th. We cannot exactly say in words how much we shall miss him. We have not only lost our Commander but a friend and counsellor. Being at heart a "thorough sport" it was only natural that he should extend to his men an appreciated latitude in regard to time for all matters pertaining to recreation, and he is quitting a Depot the equal of which, for physical fitness, it would indeed be difficult to find. In a farewell message he wished us all the "Best of Luck." Reciprocations Sir, and may you and yours ever experience the "Very Best of Everything."

May we offer our respectful welcome to Major Guy Lee, D.S.O., M.C., who has taken over command from Major Crookenden. So far as Sport is concerned, compatible, of course, with military duties, we know that we shall get plenty of it—particularly cricket.

The Spoon Shoot for February did not take place till early in March, when R.S.M. Dare secured the silver trophy with 2 short of a possible, and the wooden one again fell to Comrade Maillard who, in due course, will fill up its spacious bowl with a delightful tonic of extraordinary body-building properties. (Messrs "Winox" ought to subscribe something to the Mess funds for this gratuitous testimonial).

On Dreifontein night (March 10th) our little annual convivial was held in the Mess to celebrate that day. A real ripping evening was the outcome. Members and their wives assembled in force, and the musical programme consisted of turns given by each member. Every item was enjoyed. Our old friend "Shrieve" looked in, and acted the part of Musical Director to the Ladies, whom he assayed to teach the absolutely correct rendering of his notorious dirge, "Three sanguinary Crows perched upon a privet hedge." It was indeed a jolly night, to which, you may be sure, our old companion the Brown Jug added no "small measure" of merriment. It kept "going round." So did we. The only actual survivors of the engagement present were Major Foster, R.Q.M.S. A. Andrews and C.S.M. Follett.

A Whist Drive took place on the 14th at which a goodly number assembled. First prizes were won by Mrs. Hook and Sgt. "Euchre" Jones, and the second ones fell to Mrs. Adams and C.S.M. Couchman.

Let us be permitted, please, to offer our sincere congratulations to Major and Mrs. Gould on the birth of their first-born, a son. Every good wish of ours accompanies them on leaving the Depot to join the 1st Battalion.

W. M. S.

The Corporals.

A further success in the series of dances arranged by the Corporals of the Depot was achieved on Friday, March 3rd. Owing to the Gymnasium being under repair the Drill shed was utilized on this occasion, and quite the most successful dance of the season ensued. The Shed was prettily decorated for the occasion, and the committee and all the Corporals who helped, under the supervision of Cpl. Holden are to be congratulated on the success of the dance. The floor was splendid, and everyone was asking, "How did they get it like this?" but the Corporals believe in the old saying difficulties were made to be overcome, and never was this saying more applicable.

The company numbered about 200, several Officers of the Garrison being present; also quite a number of the Corporals of the 1st Battalion, whom we played at football in the afternoon. We were also very pleased to welcome quite a nice number of the 10th Royal Hussars, who have just arrived from Ireland, and who seemed to be enjoying the fun and making themselves quite "At Home."

The outstanding features of the evening were the Spot Waltzing and Lucky Number Competition, which resulted thus:—Ladies spot prize, Miss Knott; Gentlemen's spot prize, Mr. Ready; Lucky number prize, Mr. Allen. The prizes were kindly presented by Mrs. Foster.

The Committee—Cpl. Holden, L/ce.-Cpls. Driscoll and Middleton—are to be congratulated on the success of the dance, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all present. The Band was under the direction of L/Cpl. Collier, and L/Cpl. Driscoll officiated as M.C.

Ourselves v. 1st Battalion.

Quite an enjoyable afternoon's sport was enjoyed, and many old aquaintances renewed, when the Corporals of the 1st Battalion visited the Corporals of the Depot to play at football. The game which was a close one ended in a win for the visitors, by two goals to one, the goals being scored for the 1st Battalion by Cpls. Rye and Mc'Lean, and for the Depot by L/Cpl. Middleton.

We are congratulating ourselves on getting off so lightly as most of us thought that we were in for a severe licking, but it is surprising what the "old crocks" can do when they get going, and if they cannot play 1st class football, they get in the way of the opposing men who can, causing them a great deal of inconvenience.

W. Driscoll, L/Cpl.

Football.

(The Canterbury and District Junior League).

The Depot v. G.P.O. Engineers.

This match was played on 11th February and resulted in a win for the Depot by 5—0. For the Buffs, Drumgood scored for two goals, and Parry one as a result of some clever work. Ingram on the wing showed good form as also did Middleton as half, whilst R.S.M. Dan and Mayan at back defended in a resolute manner.

The Depot v. Manston R.A.F.

In the match with both teams at their full strength, the Depot still maintained their unbeaten record with a draw. It was a fast and exciting game conspicuous for the clean and sporting spirit displayed by both sides. On the general run of the play the Depot team should certainly have won. Aylward scored our only goal.

The Depot v. Swalecliffe.

On the 11th March we secured another victory, this time to the tune of 6—1, our goal scorers being Smith (3), Sheetin (2), and Maillard (1). So the Depot team is still the only undefeated one in the Junior League as the following table shows.:—

Week Ending March 11th, 1922.

Club.	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals. F.	A.	P.
Buffs Depot	15	14	0	1	92	3	29
Lesser Stour	12	10	1	1	59	14	21
Baptists	13	6	1	6	31	18	18
Swalecliffe	14	8	5	1	39	37	17
Herne Bay A.	15	7	5	3	31	17	17
G.P.O. Engnrs.	15	5	8	2	26	41	12
Rovers	13	5	7	1	21	30	11
Herne United	16	4	12	0	29	56	8
Old Pals United	14	2	10	2	26	49	6
R.F.A. (T).	13	0	12	1	5	91	1

(Continued on next page.)

Beneath Bell Harry—*continued.*

THE CANTERBURY HOSPITAL CUP.

(Fourth Round).

The Depot v. Baptist Institute.

This match was played on the Wincheap Grove Ground on 18th February, and was favoured with ideal weather conditions. Both teams put up a keen fight and an excellent struggle was witnessed. The Buffs won the toss, took advantage of the wind, and were soon pressing.

After about half-an-hours' play a good pass was well taken by Ingram (the Buffs' outside-left) who sent in a hot shot which hit the under side of the cross bar and rebounded into the net. Towards the end of the game Ingram unfortunately received an injury and had to be carried off. During his absence a well-combined effort by the Buffs' inside forwards resulted in a second goal being scored at close range by Shelton. A good game thus ended 2—0 in the Buffs' favour.

Depot Recruits v. 1st Bn. Boys.

Played on 15th February, this proved a most interesting game in which the Recruits ran out winners by 9—2. A strong wind was blowing and the Boys put up a very plucky fight against a stronger team. Amongst the recruits who showed good form and who scored one or more goals, were Hogben, Bowman, Beauchamp (Froggie), and Clifton, whilst for the Boys, Andrews (Punch) and Holmes perhaps showed up to best advantage.

HOCKEY.

Depot v. St. Edmund's College.

Played away on 10th February, the Depot won by 5—2, our goal scorers being Clayton (3), Palmer (1) and Rev. Hunt (1).

Depot v. 1st Battalion.

In this, the return match, played at Shorncliffe, the Depot Team were in a good mood, and soon after the opening bully took up the attack which, after a few exchanges in mid-field, resulted in Collier scoring from a pass by Sgt. Dr. Clayton.

The 1st Battalion now got lively, and, with the constant backing of their halves, kept our defence on tender-hooks; finally getting through by Sgt. Burville, thus equalizing.

Early in the second half Collier again succeeded in getting through.

The 1st tried hard to level the score but before the close of play, the Depot scored twice more, through the agency of Rev. Hunt. Lieut. Willows was in great form at centre half and he had the satisfaction of leaving behind the impression that we possessed 'Some' Hockey Team.

Depot v. R.M.L.I.

Played away, for the second time we suffered defeat at the hands of the R.M.L.I., to the tune of 6—2. On the probable cause of defeat there is nothing to say except that we deserved it in the general form shown. Our scorers were Clayton and Eccleston.

Depot v. St. Edmund's College.

Played at home on 1st March, the Depot were in great form, the forwards attacking well, and the defence at all times sound. The result was 8—2 in our favour, our goal scorers being Eccleston (3), Clayton (2), Collier (2), and McNeir (1).

Depot v. 10th R. Hussars.

Played at home on 9th March and resulting in a loss 1—2. It was a hard and fast game in which H.R.H. Prince Henry played for his Regiment at inside left. This was a match we ought to have won, but all credit to our opponents Goalie for keeping us out. We look forward to a return match in which—Well!

Depot v. S. Arms School.

Played at home on 11th March we again suffered defeat to the narrow margin of 1—2.

This game was noted for very clean play throughout, the School making long passes, and the Depot Goalie Richards, being in great form. The balance of play being in favour of the S.A.S., our goal scorer was the Rev. Hunt.

DRAGON BOUND VOLUMES.

Orders for binding The Dragon can be now placed with the Editor in accordance with one or other of the following alternatives—

THE THREE ALTERNATIVES.

1. Where readers supply us with their own Dragons: 4/- post free.
2. Where the complete set of Dragons published in 1921 is supplied from our office 10/- post free.
3. Covers only, 2/6 post free

The Buffs Benevolent Fund.

And an Interesting Proposal.

A FEW readers, on looking at the balance sheet published this month, may be led away to suppose that the fund is rolling in money. The facts however, are far from this. The Fund has only one regular source of income, *i.e.*, the interest derived from the investment of the funds. How did we get these funds? Solely by donations. As about an average of one case a day comes up fo investigation, the help that can be given from the available cash is far less than we should like it to be. When we should like to give a man a small pension for life, we are forced to be content in giving him a small donation to help him on his way. As the fund is for the relief of old Buffs, those who served in the regiment during the war have naturally a claim on us, though the old soldier who enlisted somewhere in the seventies, and served continuously for 20 years or more, has naturally the prior claim.

Now this all points to the fact that if we are to do our job, as we should like to, we must have more money. It takes a lot of small donations to reach £100 and that sum, when invested, does not yield a very large yearly interest. If you are organising a concert or any other form of entertainment try and put by a small amount for the Benevolent Fund.

Personally, I should like to see the Past and Present association and the Benevolent Fund affiliated to each other, the former being a sort of insurance towards benefits from the latter. In other words, if my idea were to come into being, no one would be eligible for help from the Benevolent Fund unless he had contributed during his regular service to the Past and Present Association. One could enlarge on this idea by making a sliding scale according to the amount paid to the Past and Present, *e.g.*, A life Member only to be considered for a pension; a subscriber to five years not to obtain more than a total of £5 and then of course only if his case was considered deserving of help. Any balance credit in the Past and Present Association, under my scheme would be transferred to the Benevolent Fund.

Perhaps a vote on my suggestion might be taken among the subscribers to *the Dragon.*

E. F. D. S.

[*We gladly offer our pages for a discussion on this important matter. Ed.*]

TO PAST AND PRESENT BUFFS.

THE Association of Past and Present Buffs is open to all those who are serving or have served in a Regular Battalion of the Buffs, and to all those who have served or are serving with a Service, Territorial, or Special Reserve Battalion.

If you are not already a member, why not become one now?

Terms of Membership.

Officers ...	...	... 2/6 *per annum.*
Other Ranks	...	... 2/6 *first year,* 1/- *subsequent year.*

Life Membership.

Officers	...	...	...	£2	2 0
Other Ranks	...	...	...	£1	1 0

All correspondence to The Hon. Sec., the Association of Past and Present Buffs, Depot The Buffs, Canterbury.

The Territorials.

Camp.

FAILING Orders coming through altering the date the Kent and Sussex Infantry Brigade go into Camp at Dibgate, Shorncliffe, from April 29th to May 13th next. Whether the huts will be occupied or the more healthy canvas tents provided is still in doubt. It is sincerely hoped that every man will attend this year, not only to make himself more efficient, but to add to his store of bodily well-being and physical fitness.

It is thought that perhaps it is not clearly understood among all members of the Battalion that there is an obligation on the part of a "Terrior," once he has joined, to serve as he is required and to attend camp. In the event of certain men, whose numbers it is hoped will be few, being prevented from attending Camp, it is hoped they will furnish their Company Officers with certificates to support their applications for leave from Camp.

Camp means plenty of healthy exercise, and the fact that the whole Brigade are this time Camping together is yet another reason why every effort should be made to attend, and all are advised to bring along their Songs, Instruments, Bathing Suits, Footballs, and, in case of "weather," umbrellas.

Bounties.

In the interests of national economy it has been found necessary to reduce the Bounties offered to Men joining the Territorial Army, and they now stand at £3 for a trained man and £2 10s. 0d. for a recruit. This is a very substantial reduction, and whilst we regret the order, it is not for us to criticise the step the authorities have been forced against their inclinations to take.

We cannot think that the men who have been unselfish and patriotic enough to offer their services will stand aside because the Country cannot at the moment afford to pay them quite so much as it would like to pay, and it is not anticipated that the reduction will deter men from coming on and re-engaging.

Promotion.

The promotion question in the Battalion is at present hardly settled owing to difficulties for which remedies are being sought by all concerned. On the amalgamation of the 4th and 5th Battalions, the former were forced to take on a large number of N.C.O.'s from the latter. Delay has occurred owing to the fact that an establishment for one Battalion only is allowed and a greater proportion of N.C.O.'s to Men came over from the 5th Battalion. In many Companies, however, promotions are not yet completed up to establishment, but it is hoped to have this done before Camp begins.

Medals.

If men claiming the Territorial war medal, and who declared their willingness to serve overseas at some date up to and including 30th September 1914, will be good enough to state on their applications the names of the officer or officers before whom they made this declaration, considerable delay will be prevented and the medals will be much more rapidly forthcoming.

Musketry.

Of a total of 480, 80 men failed to complete their musketry last year, and it is hoped very much that special efforts will this year be made by all to complete their musketry, and that the 80 will be very much reduced if not entirely eliminated

Specialists.

Although the Battalion is fast approaching full Peace Establishment, great difficulty is being experienced in obtaining Specialists, such as Cooks, pioneers, Scouts, transport drivers, Mess Men, Signallers, Clerks, storemen and grooms. If any man who considers himself qualified to undertake any of these duties will communicate with the Commanding officer through his Company Officer, stating his wish to be employed thereon, it will be of great assistance.

Marriage Allowance.

Any men who have been married or have had any additions to their families since last camping season are very strongly advised to bring with them to Camp all documentary evidence of same such as birth certificates marriage certificates etc., to ensure them drawing the higher rate of marriage allowance to which they will be entitled. Little can be done without these papers.

Shooting.

The Territorial Army Rifle Association Executive have issued a book giving the programme for 1922. This programme comprises a very fair list of firing events both for individuals and teams, and may be supplemented as the season advances. The Association has wisely chosen July 10th and 11th for the date of their Central Meeting, in order to give their members every opportunity of availing themselves of the chance of competing for the prizes of the National Rifle Association which are of course being competed for on these days at Bisley. The Territorial Army Individual Championship and the Sheriffs' Competition are both being held at Bisley on those days, whilst most of the other events, including Queen Mary's Prizes, will take place on local ranges. The National Rifle Association are considering a proposal for making Territorial Army members Associate Members for a fee of 1/- per annum, and if the proposal materializes competitors will be able to travel to Bisley from any part of the country at reduced fares.

Tenders.

Firms at Folkestone and Shorncliffe who advertize in the Dragon are invited to communicate with the Adjutant, 4th Buffs, Canterbury, their tenders for the management of the Officers Mess of that Battalion during the camping season at Dibgate from April 29th to May 13th.

Fancy Dress Ball.

Under the auspices of the Entertainments Committee of the Territorial Social Club, a most enjoyable and highly successful fancy dress ball has been held in the Drill Hall, Canterbury. The hall was gaily decorated with flags kindly lent by the Chamber of Trade, and there were about 250 dancers present. The Mayor and Mayoress attended, and, with Lieutenant Swinford, acted as judges of the costumes, the grand parade in fancy dress being the event of the evening. The prize-winners were:—Ladies: 1, Mrs. Escott (Indian squaw); 2, Miss Peel "Winox". Gentlemen: 1, Mr. W. G. Horne (Bedouin Arab); 2, Mr. Swain "Winox". Mrs. Wenham and Miss French secured the prizes for "hidden numbers," found in the bags of confetti. The Mayoress subsequently presented the prizes, and the Mayor, after congratulating the promoters of the ball expressed the hope that the attendance that night would mean an increased interest in the Territorials, and that it would be an inducement to other young men to join up. Mr. A. Baker was a popular M.C.

The Sittingbourne Company.

Lance-Corporal Mac Kaygow of the company has just took unto himself a wife, and we all wish both Mrs. Mac and himself the very best wishes for a long life of happiness and good health. Captain Dean, V.C., on behalf of the Officers, W.Os. N.C.Os., and Men of the company presented a clock to the happy couple as an earnest of the good wishes of all of us.

We also extend our heartiest congratulations to Lance Corporals Rogers and Farrett on their appointment to (Paid Lce. Cpls).

Our Instructor we hear is very busy every Saturday morning carrying out Miniature Range practices with the Boys Cadet Brigade under the Command of Cadet Captain Bird, these boys are very keen on shooting and in time we are looking forward and hope to get some of them on the strength of the company.

Things we want to know.

Who was the man who asked his Q.M.S., if his Figity Pay was through, yet, being the new word for Proficiency Pay!

D Company at Folkestone.

We are now running some very successful weekly Dances in Folkestone Drill Hall on Saturday evenings, in conjunction with the R.F.A. Territorials, and we get quite a large number of guests from the 1st Battalion Buffs and other units in the District.

On Friday, March 10th we held a Grand Boxing Tournamnet in the Drill Hall, organized by a joint committee of military and civilians in aid of the Mayor of Folkestone's Fund for the French Village of Morlancourt.

Bombardier Wells gave an exhibition which was very much appreciated. Over 2000 seats were provided and filled.

The Territorials—*continued.*

"C" THE WEALD COMPANY.

It is now definitely arranged that the Colours of the 5th Battalion will be presented on Saturday, May 13th. The ceremony will take place at Cranbrook, and the Colours will be presented by Lady Camden, the wife of the Lord Lieutenant. The Weald Company will furnish the Colour party. After the presentation the Colours will be laid up in Cranbrook Parish Church. This date has been chosen as being the day of our return from the annual training at Shorncliffe. The opportunity of having the Company all together and after 15 days training was considered too good a one to be missed. The ladies of Cranbrook are very kindly arranging to entertain the Company to tea after the ceremony. It is hoped that as many old members of the 5th Battalion as possible will attend, and they also will be entertained. The Weald Company will disperse to their homes at the conclusion of the proceedings. This should be a fitting ending to what, it is hoped, will be a happy camp for all ranks.

1/5th Buff Graves in Amara.

LANCE-CORPORAL G. H. Amos sends us the following list of Buff graves that he came across in the cemetery at Amara; and general satisfaction will be felt at the news he gives us that all the graves are in good condition, the cemetery being well cared for by an Arab.

THEIR NAMES.

1/5th Buffs.

2nd Lieut. The Hon. C. J. Goschen, died of wounds, Jan. 7th, 1916; Cpt. A. E. Cheeseman, died Sept. 26th, 1916; 722 Sgt. J. Ades, died 4/7/16; 2967 Cpl. G. Binks, died 26/6/16; 1358 L/Cpl. G. Topham, died at Amara, Jan. 16th, 1916; 3291 L/Cpl. S. Hains, died 19/7/16; 1234 Pte. C. Rudlane, died 1/4/16; 1676 Pte. W. Chittenden, died of wounds, Feb. 8th, 1916; 2365 Pte. H. C. Hart, died 17/1/16; 3598 Pte. F. W. May, died 17/7/16; 996 Pte. G. Mackeldon, died 16/7/16; 1021 Pte. A. J. Pilbeam, died 8/8/16; 3133 Pte. A. W. Nunn, died 26/8/16; 3589 Pte. J. A. Knight, died 27/6/16; 3601 Pte. R. J. Mountford, died 20/5/16; 3417 Pte. A. E. Dale, died 13/5/16; 4440 Pte. D. Brunger, died 7/2/17; 4010 Pte. E. Mount, died 10/3/17; 1047 Pte. V. W. Chapman, died 2/4/17; 24152 Pte. D. Turner, died 8/7/16; 3422 Pte. W. J. Knott, died 29/8/16; 3382 Pte. J. Martin, died 17/7/16; 3203 Pte. S. T. Hardware, died 19/7/16; 2749 Pte. R. H. Shilling, died 18/9/16; 3380 Pte. A. Uden, died 20/7/16.

2nd Buffs.

6279689 Pte. G. Lamberton, died 23/10/21.

A Hundred Years Ago.

IN our February issue in Beneath Bell Harry we gave some extracts from the standing orders of the East Kent Militia of 1812. Here is another which will not fail to amuse.

SERVANTS.

"No officer's servant shall wear his regimentals; officers having previously obtained the Commanding Officer's sanction, will confine themselves in their selection of servants to their respective companies and to the rear rank.

A soldier who waits on an officer to be suffered to cut his hair but agreeable to the form established in the regiment, those who may disobey this order to be immediately turned into the ranks and brought to a Court Martial. (The familiar cry "Hair cut!" is apparently no new thing. Ed.)"

It is interesting to note, in addition, that the list of "necessaries" in these days was almost identical with those of the present day, as was also the "Report of the Officer of the Day," the "Morning Sick Report," the "Parade state," etc. But there were three ranks in those days, "front," "centre" and "rear."

In fact, with the exception of punishments, very little has altered in the routine of a regiment in the last hundred years.

1st Cadet Battalion The Buffs.

(Being the continuation of Lt.-Col F. Mainwaring Dunstan's reply to the open letter addressed to him by Ex-Cadet.)

IN 1904 Captain H. H. Marks, M.P. joined the Battalion as Commanding Officer in place of Major Scott-White who had resigned. The Camp was again held at Sandwich, but we had a fresh Inspecting Officer in Colonel R. A. Hickson, C.B., who was accompanied by Captain Trevor. He again inspected us in 1905 at Callis Court.

There was no Camp in 1906 as far as I can remember but, in November, Brigadier General C. C. Donald, C.B. (Commanding the Home Counties Grouped Regimental Districts) inspected the Canterbury Coy. at Canterbury, also the Margate Coy. and St. Augustine's College Detachment at Margate. In spite of the early hour, 4–15 p.m., the local Coy had 72 and the College about 35 on parade. When General Donald was in India as Inspector General of Territorials, he recalled this Inspection and asked to have any ex-Cadets who were on it pointed out to him.

As an example of what we used to do at Easter I will briefly sketch what happened in 1907 as that was the last of those useful and jolly times we participated in. Ou the Saturday afternoon the Advance party and Band left Margate by train for Herne Bay, whence they marched to Swalecliffe. Other members of the Company arrived during the evening or early next morning. The night was spent in a barn, but sleep was out of the question owing to a prolonged and spirited mangel wurzel fight in the dark.

On Sunday there was a Church Parade at Swalecliffe Church and, after dinner, the march was resumed through Whitstable, Seasalter and Graveney to Faversham, where sleeping accommodation was found in a warehouse. We left on Monday morning, the route being via Preston and Boughton to Dunkirk, where the Companies from Dover, Canterbury and Ramsgate were met. A small tactical scheme against a skeleton force represented by cyclists of the Battalion was carried out; at the conclusion of which, and after a short halt, the march was continued through Harbledown, Canterbury and Sturry to Fordwich where tea had been arranged for. We entrained later in the evening and arrived back at the Drill Hall shortly after 9 p.m.

The whole outing was thoroughly enjoyed by all, though the heat, dust, marches in full marching order, to say nothing of the additional work entailed in the manoeuvres, fatigues, and Church Parade imposed a pretty severe strain on the lads, and would have been a good test for even seasoned troops. The fact that not one fell out spoke well for their pluck and stamina.

THE LACK OF FUNDS.

Want of funds and lack of Officers in the other Companies made it impossible to carry on as a Battalion and led to its disbandment. The Margate Coy was then about 100 strong with a full complement of Officers for the Company and Head-Quarters, and backed up by many generous supporters. So I was asked to retain this Coy. and attach it to the local Volunteer Coy. But neither the Officers nor Cadets were keen on this arrangement, and the Company was disbanded. Thus ended a movement in the four towns which enabled growing lads, of the right age, to enjoy healthy physical training, coupled with strict military discipline, all of which was bound to have beneficial effect upon them. It also closed a valuable recruiting ground for, in five years, 450 of the Cadets joined the Royal Navy or the Army.

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Second Sight.

OUR readers will remember that a photograph published in a recent issue was headed "1st Bn. The Buffs Boxing Team 1931," and that this provoked a contemporary to enquire whether our photographers and his camera were gifted with second sight and whether the Editor of *The Dragon* was one to whom the future and its mysteries are "Bared.'

We now go well ahead of 1931, and present our readers with a lifelike representation of an old Buff's grandson on his way to receive his Grandfather's British War and Victory Medals.

"Daily Express" Cup.

THE Territorfal Army Rifle Association announce that the proprietors of the "Daily Express" have offered a Cup for competition among units of the Territorial Army to be competed for at the Central Meeting at Bisley on 10th and 11th July, 1922. The Cup will be won outright by the unit whose 4 best individual scores in the Territorial Army Championship Match make up the highest aggregate. Silver Medals will also be awarded to the members of the winning team and Bronze Medals to the members of the 2nd and 3rd Teams. Full particulars can be obtained from the Sec., Drill Hall, Guildford.

Hints for Athletes.

IT is safe to say that a good style is the first essentiality to me who aspires to be a successful athlete. After a good style has been aquired, then is the time to specialize. How often one sees the cricketer, footballer, tennis player, and golfer, etc., who has the makings of becoming a first class player, but who has lacked expert guidance at the start, having to undo his many faults and bad habits, if he can ever hope to hold his own amongst first class players. So it is with the runner, who must remember that it is style, and not only brute force, determination and staying power that will enable him to get the greatest amount of forward propulsion with the lowest expenditure of effort, and which will bring to him at the critical moment just that little extra he must have if he is to be the first to breast the tape.

HINTS AS TO STYLE.

The following hints, then, on style should be carefully studied :—

Stride. First discover the runner's own natural stride according to his length of leg; don't attempt to exaggerate it, practice will lengthen it automatically. The action should be rhythmical. Measure the length of stride weekly (a double stride should always be taken for measurement).

Legs. The pupil should run on the balls of the feet, the knees should not be turned out when raised, the knee-cap should not be raised above the level of the hip, and the heels must not be raised towards the seat; raising the knees or heels means loss of power and time.

Body. The body should be inclined slightly forward and well poised on the hips; it should be kept quite steady, the chest full and shoulders square to the front. The body should never be swayed from side to side; any oscillation sideways means useless expenditure of energy.

Head. The head should be kept at the same angle as that held by the body, and it should never be thrown back or rocked from side to side; these faults mean loss of control.

Arms. The arms should be only slightly bent at the elbows, hands open; they should be swung straight and in front of the body. The hands should not be raised more than an inch or two above the level of the hips. The arms should swing from the shoulders; but the shoulders should be always kept square. The arms will, if swung in this way, help the forward propulsion of the body.

WHAT TO AVOID.

In cultivating the above, here are the common faults that are apt to creep in, and which should at all cost be avoided. :—

1. Incorrect bounding action of stag instead of gliding like greyhound for economy of energy, often due to too much ankle movement.
2. Toes turned outwards causing stride to be shortened.
3. Knee raised too high, causing useless upward propulsion.
4. Knees turned outward instead of slightly inwards. and so arresting forward movement.
5. Heels raised to seat, which is a wasteful expenditure of energy.
6. Allowing heels to touch ground and running flat-footedly, causing arch of foot to be broken down, loss of elasticity and spoiling rhythmical action.
7. Moving too stiffly, caused by over-development of muscles and lack of rhythm.
8. Body swayed from side to side, causing oscillation sideways and therefore useless expenditure of energy.
9. Body too far back and badly poised on hips—causing the body to be a dead-weight, and thus throwing more work on the legs, checking the rhythm and shortening the stride.
10. Not swinging the arms easily and using shoulders in the swing.
11. Not keeping the shoulders square.
12. Clenching the fist, thus tiring the arm muscles, and making their movements stiff.
13. Swinging the elbow back behind the trunk, causing loss of poise and preventing forward propulsion of body.
14. Arms kept too bent and too high, making the runner upper-cut, causing useless exertion and preventing swing of arm helping forward propulsion of body.
15. Head not kept in same straight line as trunk, either thrown back or rolled sideways, causing the runner to lose control and fight the air.

Mespot Shooting Expedition.

From a Correspondent.

FOR our shooting expedition we left Amara in a rotten little launch, but it went alright as it was down stream all the way, and we ultimately arrived at a place called Qualet Salah the same afternoon.

Shortly after our arrival the Sheikh, Falea by name, turned up. He was a treme dous man about 6ft. 4 inches, and very broad and good looking, with a black beard and whiskers. Quite the finest looking Arab I have seen.

Here we got into masoufs, (native boats), two of us together and were p ddled across the river up a small canal. The journey up the canal was about half an hour and there we came to the Sheikh's guest house and village.

The guest house consisted of one large square room with wooden Chesterfields all round, and very inferior carpets on the ground. We were at once given coffee, but only a few drops.

When ur kits arrived we took our guns and had a walk down the canal for some partridges and got 5 or 6, but it soon got dark. There were three Arabs shooting with us and they are most dangerous, pointing their loaded guns all over the place, but luckily nobody was shot.

THE SHEIKH'S DINNER.

On our return to the guest house, we all sat round the room again and more coffee was brought. About six o'clock they said we could have dinner, and they brou ht us a table and chairs and *all* the food. Everything was put on the table at once, and there were about 15 different things; and in the middle was a huge dish of rice piled up about a foot high.

The Sheikh had dinner with us. He supplied knives and forks for us but did not use them himself and of course there was only one plate apiece. There was chicken, a whole lamb, (very small one), fish, dates, jam, sort of cutlets, and a lot of other messes done up with figs and tomatoes which I did not sample.

The Sheikh opened the meal by taking hands full of rice in his plate, and pulling off a leg of the lamb into which he dived his hand and abstracted a lot of stuffing mess. He then pulled the meat off the bone and rolled it round with rice till it was about the size f a cricket ball. Then he put the whole thing in his mouth at once. We all nibbled at various dishes and the rice was excellent. The chicken also was not too bad, though very greasy and neither hot nor cold. There were also plates of curds which went very well with the rice and date jam. They gave us nothing to drink with dinner at all.

After dinner we sat round and talked; and then his servants brought in the bedding which consisted of silk mattresses of most gorgeous colours, cushions of glaring design, and also eider downs of every conceivable hue. I personally slept on the floor, on one of their mattresses and my own blankets, whilst the others used their camp beds.

As soon as we had finished dinner the sheikh's retinue, about twelve in all took off the remains and consumed them on the floor.

THE BIG SHOOT.

The next morning we started for the big shoot. We crossed the ca al to find Arab ponies waiting for us. These were very small and had those awful Arab saddles and great huge stirrups. We walked the whole way with only one occasional canter till we came to a village ri ht on the marshes. Here we joined our guns and cartridges; and each in his own masouf, we all started off with two men paddling through narrow channels cut through the reeds which consist of very high bulrushes. Suddenly we came upon a huge expanse of

(Continued on next page at foot of 2nd column).

Instructor : How far is your group from the point of aim ?

Recruit: One hundred yards, sir.

* * * *

INSTRUCTOR (*to recruit on parade without his rifle*) : " What do you mean by coming on parade without your best friend ? Go and fetch it."

Collapse of instructor on recruit returning with his knife and fork.

* * * *

" Now then," roared the Sergeant Major, as he dismissed the fatigue, " You will parade again on this spot at two o'clock sharp and when I say two o'clock, I don't mean five past. I mean five to."

* * * *

He was a " character " who had given the parish much trouble one way and another. The rector meeting him quiet and thoughtful in the street one morning, said : " I was very glad to see you at the prayer-meeting that last night, John." Replied John : " Oh, that's where I was, then ! "

* * * *

A Sinn Feiner in the confessional-box : " I shot a police inspector a week back. A few days afterwards I shot a sergeant. The night before last two Black and Tans."

" Man, man," interrupted the priest, " drop your politics and tell me your sins ? "

* * * *

The teacher was endeavouring to explain to her class a few facts about the wind. " As I was coming up in the train this morning," she remarked, " the door of the carriage suddenly opened, something came in very softly and kissed me gently on the cheek : what do you suppose that was ? " And the cry went up in unison : " Please, teacher, the guard ! "—

* * * *

A young soldier, having lost his cap, produced a new one from the bottom of his box, but discovered that it had no badge on it. With only a moment to spare to get to parade in time he called out to the men of his room : " Who's got two cap badges ? " The man in the far corner of the room who answered, " The Glosters ! " is still in a critical condition.

* * * *

It was terribly rough in the Bay of Biscay, and a parson, in great fear that the boat was going down, worried the captain as to the danger. The captain took him to a hatchway, and said : " Listen to those men." From below came the usual oaths. " So long as they keep swearing there's no danger," said the captain. The storm grew worse and worse, and from time to time the parson struggled to the hatchway and istened. " Thank God, they're still swearing ! " was his heartfelt comment.

* * * *

A Scotsman had signed the pledge, and the news spread quickly. One of his friends said to him : " D'ye mean to tell me, Jock, that ye're not going to have another drink as long as ye live ? " " Aye, I do."

" D'ye mean to say that if ye were standing in a lake filled with whisky right up to your knees ye would not be caught bending ? " " Nay ! "

" Well, suppose it was right up to your armpits, would ye stoop ? " " Nay." " Well, if it was right up to your chin—and it's Scotch whisky I'm talking o'—would ye no sip it ? "

Here Jock began to waver a little—the prospect was too tempting. There was a pause, then : " Well, I'm no saying I would, mind ye, but I might make a wee ripple with my hand."

* * * *

It was a by-election, and the campaign was fast and furious, and one afternoon an unfriendly voter, full of energy and verbosity, rushed up to one of the candidates with the explosive remark :

" Before I'd vote for you, sir, I'd blow my brains out ! "

" My friend," replied the would-be M.P., benignly smiling down at him from the platform, " you flatter yourself on your marksmanship ! "

* * * *

Higgins got home to learn that his wife had given birth to triplets—three healthy, bouncing boys.

Higgins, overjoyed, went to the office next morning and recounted the rare and wonderful thing which had befallen him. The chief felicitated him heartily, and the next day Higgins was sent for.

He hurried to the office again, to find the entire firm assembled there. A handsome silver cup stood on the mantel, and this trophy, in an eloquent speech, the chief presented to him in recognition of the triple blessing which he had bestowed upon his country.

Higgins took the cup in his hand, bowed respectfully and said :

" Excuse me, sir, but is this cup mine now, or do I have to win it three years in succession ? "

* * * *

The gallant Major was disturbed in his biblical studies, one fine night in Mespotamia, by a quarrel between two gunners, who cursed each other, outside his tent, till the Major could stand it no longer, but sallying forth, addressed one of them in his own patois, asking what the * — *** *w* — ! ! ! * he meant by using blanketty blank language in the hearing of his blunketting blunk blunked commanding officer ?

No. 1 saluted, when the geyser subsided for a moment, and marched off.

Then the Major turned to No. 2 and barked :—

" Well, you whizzly wow-wow ; what have you got to say ? "

The soldier clicked his heels, saluted, and snapped out :—

" Dead heat, sir ! "

Mespot Shooting Expedition—*continued.*

water of about 50 acres surrounded by reeds where there were any number of ducks and water birds, but it was quite impossible to get near them.

There were eight native boats and we all got into line and drove the birds up one end, but when we got fairly near they simply got up and flew out of sight. We all fired off a lot of cartridges at impossible ranges, and, in the end, we only got six ducks. The Arabs shot coots, and had we wished we could have got hundreds of them.

I have never seen such a wonderful collection of water birds. There were a good number of Pelicans, perhaps the most beautiful of all birds in flight. The marshes are really lovely as you go through the channels in the reeds and keep coming out on these large lakes ; and you can go on till you join the river again above Basra a distance of about 50 miles or more.

After the shoot we returned to the village at 1.30 and had lunch spread out on carpets on the ground. This time we had no knives and forks and had to eat with our hands. I have forgotten to say that the Sheikh told us he had married thirty-one wives. He is really a rich man.

Young Soldier's Handbook.

Promotion.

Jilted by the Duchess's Daughter.

WHATEVER your reason for joining the Army, the question of promotion is worthy of consideration. But whether you enlisted

(*a*) Out of pique because the pater objected to you keeping race-horses.

(*b*) Because of your fear that you must have killed the butler that morning after the night before when you belaboured him for disrespect towards your guests.

(*c*) After knocking down a small child in the street whilst driving your sixth Rolls-Royce.

(*d*) Owing to the duchess' daughter jilting you and leaving you with a broken heart.

or,

(*e*) Because you were hungr .

(*f*) Consequent upon a realisation of the fact that at anything else you were what is commonly known as a bake.

Now you have joined, you should lose no time in coming to a decision upon this matter. Should you resolve that you have no use for promotion, your wisdom proves that you are not in need of further instruction, and that you may fall out.

But should you decide to make a splash in the Realms of the " Stars and Stripes," by which is meant of course, the kind you wear, and not the kind that won the war, read on, and Heaven help you.

At the outset, one of your most disheartening difficulties will be that of maintaining your dignity as a N.C.O. while standing in the centre of the barrack room floor at about 22.14 hours clad only in your shirt, endeavouring to quell over-exuberant spirits not uncommonly manifest at this hour.

You might try the effect of pyjamas, but it is useless " putting down " for them at the Quartermaster's stores. Somebody is bound to be vexed if you do.

Lance-Corporals run most things, from messages all over barracks, (Hence Promotion), to big bills for boot repairs. We look forward to the time when roller skates or scooters will form part of the equipment of this much-wanted individual. But until these halcyon days arrive, you should learn to walk upon the hands and so give your feet an occasional rest.

Remember that your first stripe does not entitle you to greet the Colonel as " Cocky," nor to slap the Company Officer on the back when you meet.

Diligent application to your work, and very rare ones for leave, will enable you to rise step by step to the highest-pinnacle of Army rank, provided no misguided individual with a grudge against you soaps them and brings you down with a bump. Your progress to the top of the tree will undoubtedly be perilous, as there is usually plenty of wind about to shake it, but hang on with that tenacity which made England what it used to be, and say, as many soldiers have said before you, " Now blow ! "

It is a good policy to make plenty of noise, both on the square and off. Many hard won stripes have been lost solely through a N.C.O. allowing an occasion to arise which necessitated his being asked—" What have you got to say ? " by one of his officers. It is in fact, safe to say that in the Army silence is no more golden than are your chances if you observe it.

As regards accelerated promotion this is generally resultant upon the incidence of some abnormal Situation such as being a relation to the Secretary of State for War or to the Regimental Sergeant-Major's wife. If you are neither of these, there is nothing further to fall back upon except sheer worth, which is unfortunately, no more reliable in the Army than it is in *John Bull's " Bullets,"* (in which, incidentally, the writer occasionally dabbles).

The writer cannot bring his article to a close without some reference to the C.Q.M.S., but, as he comes under the jurisdiction of one of these eh,—gentlemen, he is going to be very careful, as one never knows nowadays which way the pay lists. This much criticised individual is not so black as he is painted,—well not quite, anyway, though some are, in *other* units of course. Perhaps it would be best to say no more about him, but just to leave you, should you attain that rank, to please yourself entirely as to your own *modus operandi*.

They generally do.

Roller Skates for L/Cpls.

Thanks to the courtesy of the Editor of " The Field," the series of articles entitled "The Buffs," which appeared in that paper in 1914, will begin in the May issue of *The Dragon*.

The Queen of Northgate Street.

EVERY morn at eight-fifteen adown our street she trips,
Though rain may fall, or hail and snow turn into driving sleet,
The gloom's dispelled before the charm she sweetly radiates,
So all of us have chosen her, the Queen of Northgate Street.

Though appetite be unappeased, I at the window stand,
Lest I should miss, and sadly mourn, my every morning treat,
And thus should stray, the livelong day, my thoughts in search of her
Who reigns supreme within my heart—the Queen of Northgate Street.

Half-blind old Gyp, the baker's dog, who never speaks to me,
Thumps stumpy tail when she goes by—lifts up his head to meet
The hand he knows that will bestow a kindly, gentle pat—
Dear, wise old dog, like me he loves the Queen of Northgate Street.

Old Time has sent me many years, and weary sad old eyes ;
Though hard he tries to age my heart, he, shamelessly I cheat—
I'll love that lass for years and years—at least till she grows up—
Then choose and crown another one, the Queen of Northgate Street.

H.

Officers.

Major Guy Lee, D.S.O., M.C. has assumed command of the Depot vice Major Crookenden, D.S.O., who has rejoined the 1st Battalion.

Capt. R. A. Pinhey has been posted to The Depot vice Major E. F. Gould, who has rejoined the 1st Battalion.

Col. L. I. B. Hulke, Majors C. C. Cobbe, R. G. A. Marriott, D.S.O., and C. D. K. Greenway having attained the age limit of liability to recall, cease to belong to the Res. of officers.

Capt. L. P. Causton, M.C. has reported for duty to the 1st Battalion.

The following relinquish their commissions on completion of service (and retain their rank).—Temp. Sec. Lt. S. G. Adams, Temp. Lt. W. Kilbee, Temp 2nd Lt. F. E. B. Long.

Lt. G. C. Stemp has resigned his commission.

Capt. and Bt.-Major B. L. Birley, D.S.O., King's Own Regt., has vacated the appointment of Adjt. 5th Battalion.

Major G. O'Neal has been appointed Major to the 3rd Battalion, and Lt. A. W. Pavely, late Senr. Bn., Lieut.

The Depot.

Discharges.

6278377 Cpl. W. Mount, M.M., 6279545 L/C. G. Brown, 6279523 Pte. T. Bennett, 6279299 Pte. J. Cornwall, 6279975 Pte. R. Powell, 6279419 Dmr. A. Pleasants, 6278447 L/C. F. Smith, 6280322 Pte. F. Tilley, 6279867 Pte. A. Woddlo.

Recruits.

Pte. F. H. Brooks, Pte. T. J. G. Cable, Pte. F. Fuller, Pte. S. G. Foulger, Pte. C. Goodger, Pte. A. C. Hudson, Pte. H. Hudson, Pte. W. A. Hoady, Pte. L. A. Jamieson, Pte. E. A. Keeler (former service R. Navy), Pte. W. R. Langdon, Pte. H. Lingham, Pte. H. Lenton, Pte. R. Moore, Pte. J. Raite, Pte. J. Rigden, Pte. P. S. Robinson, Pte. A. E. Sinstead, Pte. P. Stubberfield, Pte. W. G. Wright, Pte. C. Wickens, Pte. B. Ward.

Relinquishing of Acting Rank.

6279057 A/Sgt. A. Broughton, reverts to substantive rank of L/C.

Appointment.

Appointed unpaid Recruit Lance-Corporal :—No. 732627 Pte. Coe.

Continuation in the Service.

6278037 R.Q.M.S. A. Andrews, permitted to continue on the Service for one year from 9/2/22.

Transfer.

6279846 Sgt. Tlr. J. Bastien, transferred to 2nd Bn. Queen's Own R.W. Kent Regt., 13/2/22.

Strength. Increase.

The following other ranks of 2nd Battalion having arrived from overseas, have been posted to The Depot :—

6279198 Pte. W. Prontis, 6280176 Pte. A. Buddon, 6279362 Pte. E. Stretton, 6278492 Sgt. J. Richards, 6278799 Pte. E. Davis, 6278048 R.Q.M.S. W. Edwards, 6279482 Pte. E. Kelson, 6279011 Pte. C. Small, 6279389 Sgt. C. Smith, 6278401 Pte. H. Hobbs, 6279540 Pte. F. Burr, 6280347 Pte. C. Staniford, 6279821 Pte. T. Clifton, 6279969 Pte. W. White, 6279275 Pte. A. Hayes, 6279523 Pte. T. Bennett.

The following have been posted to the Depot from the 1st Battalion :

6278065 C.S.M. Follott, 6278231 Cpl. C. Vant, 6279585 Cpl. W. Hamor, 6280390 Pte. C. Boal, 6281126 Pte. C. Lyons.

Strength. Decrease.

The following have been posted to the 1st Battalion :—

723484 Pte. J. Amos, 6281372 Pte. B. Bradley, 6281336 Pte. G. Beauchamp, 6281242 Pte. F. Clifton, 6281361 Pte. E. Lewis, 6281236 Pte. J. Bowman, 6281289 Pte. A. Barrell, 6281229 Pte. E. Burtenshaw, 6280559 Pte. R. Fox, 6281337 Pte. E. Scott, 6279808 Pte. J. Pitcher, 6278092 C.Q.M.S. F. Austen, 6280084 Cpl. W. Palmer, 6278366 Cpl. C. Dennis, 6280291 Pte. E. Legg, 6279341 Pte. S. Jones, 6278873 Pte. A. Goddard, 6279240 Pte. D. Meaden.

Re-Enlistment.

Pte. A. J. Taylor, late R.F.A., T., and Pte. G. R. Edwards, late R.G.A.,T.

The 1st Battalion.

Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

The following have been awarded the above medal with gratuity :—

780646 Sgt. A. J. Boarer, 6278044 Pte. W. Bone, 6278061 Pte. T. Smith.

Re-Engagements.

The following have re-engaged to complete 21 years :—

6278340 Sgt. A. Burville, and 6278328 Sgt. J. H. Ludem

Bandsmen.

The following have been appointed Bandsmen :—6278707 L. Cross, 6278640 Pte. W. Fray, 6278616 Pte. H. Fearon, 6278614 Pte. Lewis.

Decoration.

The Medal of The British Empire has been awarded to 6278084 Sgt. F. Barton.

Appointments.

7076312 Sgt. F. J. Page, appointed Master Shoemaker. vice Sgt. Holmes.

The following have been appointed unpaid Lance-Cpls. :—

6279970 Pte. G. Glover, 7810584 Pte. S. Jones, 6278785 Pte. F. Shaw, 6281251 Pte. A. Sidwell, 6280201 Pte. W. Waghorn.

Extension of Service.

6278493 Cpl. F. Beer has extended the terms of his period of Army Service to complete 12 years.

6279385 Cpl. W. Hamer and 6279583 L/Cpl. W. Willing have extended the term of their re-enlistment to a total of 12 years.

Continuance in the Service.

6278038 C.Q.M.S. R. T. J. Kelly has been permitted to continue in the service for a further period of one year.

Transfers.

7807455 A/Cpl G. Kirk, has transferred to the 1st Battalion from M.G.C., and 6279323 Pte. L. Price has transferred to 3rd Tank Battalion

The following have transferred to the Army Reserve :—

6278594 Pte. J. A. Curry, 6276176 Pte. A. Griffiths, 6279960 Cpl. J. Hassell, 6278475 L/Cpl. A. Morgan, 6278459 Sgt. W. Real, 6278468 Pte. E. Rigden, 7809546 Pte. J. Venner, 6279370 Pte. W. Wiseman.

Discharges.

The following have been discharged :—

6281169 Pte. J. Armstrong, 6280305 Pte. R. Brooks, 6281233 Pte. C. Connolly, 6280270 Pte. A. Dalby, 6278034 Sgt. W. Holmes, 6281234 Pte. J. Horgan 6281168 Pte. J. Lordor, 6281240 Pte. J. McDonnell, 3758988 Pte. R. Maloney, 6281239 Pte. M. Myers, 1849905 Pte. C. McCarthy, 6281167 Pte. M. O'Driscoll, 6281235 Pte. J. Switzer, 6280296 Pte. R. Walsh.

Good Conduct Badges.

6280292 Pte. F. Stone has been granted 2nd G.C.B. ; and the following 1st G.C.B. :—

6278570 Pte. A. Collier, 6280892 Pte. E. Hogben, 6280032 Pte. F. Brech, 6280035 Pte. C. Calve, 6280232 Boy A. Horton, 6280219 Pte. J. Farrant, 6280210 Pte. J. Gillam, 6280227 Boy A. Bartlett, 6280166 L/Cpl. R. Buther, 6280204 L/C. I. W. Thurlow, 6280214 Pte. A. Wood, 6280191 L/C. I. G. Eldridge.

4th Battalion.

Course of Instruction.

The following have passed a Course of Weapon Training at the Depot :—

6280803 Sgt. T. W. Horn, 6281195 Sgt. W. Shepherd, 6281193 Sgt. S. Stevens.

Re-Engagements.

The following have re-engaged for a further period of one year :—

6281003 C.S.M. A. J. Whaley, 6281002 C.Q.M.S. C. H. Cooper, 6281190 L/Cpl. V. Tomlin, 6281936 Pte. A. J. Baker, 6280999 Pte. C. V. Burton, 6281004 Pte. A. J. May, 6281084 Pte. J. Clifford, 6281059 Pte. A. Salmons, 6280984 L/C. E. Rogers.

Enlistments.

The following, having joined, are taken on the strength :—

Pte. W. J. Harrison, Pte. F. Pascall, Pte. H. E. Dives, Pte. F. Thornby, Pte. J. Rodney, Pte. C. Phillips, Pte. W. Adams, Pte. W. Brissenden, Pte. C. A. Bunch, Pte. E. W. Puttock, Pte. R. J. Good, Pte. C. Hoarndon, Pte. E. W. Arnold, Pte. H. J. White.

Discharges.

6281164 Pte. W. Fairbrace and 6280436 Pte. A. Longley are struck off the strength on joining the Regular Army.

Promotions and Appointments.

Pte. J. H. Burton is promoted transport Sergeant.

6281217 Pte. H. Woods and 6280902 L/Cpl. S. Hammond have been promoted Cpl.

6281274 Pte. F. A. Lewis, 6281263 Pte. G. Wells, 6280984 Pte. E. Rogers, 6281434 Pte. A. Farrott, and 6281054 Pte. R. Rye have been appointed paid L/Cpls.

Transfers.

7337341 Pte. C. H. Benus, has transferred from 2nd (H.C.) F.A., R.A.M.C.

And the following have been transferred to the 4th Battalion :—

6280847 Cpl. C. T. Matthews, Pte. W. Farmer, 1662504 Pte. A. Whittaker.

B. & W. FISK-MOORE,
High Class Photographers,
Canterbury.
Tel. 337.

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A PAPER FOR THE BUFFS AND MEN OF KENT.

The Dragon

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No. 270. May, 1922. Price Sixpence.

Personalia.

WITH the best of good wishes of the County and all of us, the 1st Battalion left Shorncliffe on Saturday, April 22nd, for Constantinople. On the same evening they embarked on the S.S. "Huntsend" at Southampton, and we only wish that the married families could have accompanied them.

Next month we look forward to telling the story of their voyage out, and how they find things on their arrival. Their destination is perhaps the most interesting city in the world to-day, and we hope our correspondents will not spare themselves in sending us full accounts of their impressions and adventures. Photographs will of course be equally welcome.

The Battalion left under the temporary command of Lt.-Col. R. E. Power, Lt.-Col. R. Mcdouall having taken a month's leave owing to the illness of Mrs. Macdouall to whom we wish a speedy and lasting recovery.

We now hear of the 2nd Battalion being happily and comfortably settled at Aden, and from them also we look forward to a regular supply of interesting copy. This Battn. is under the temporary command of Lt.-Col. R. Bright, Lt.-Col. Trevor having arrived home on six months leave, which he is spending at Camberley. On his arrival he lost no time in paying a visit to the Depot, and we were glad to see him looking so fit.

Another of the 2nd Battalion home on 6 month's leave is Lt.-Col. Potter, who, for the next few months, will be found down Norfolk way.

Major Miles Beevor is another Buff now at home on leave in this country, having recently arrived home from India, with his bride.

On another page will be found the most interesting suggestion of Major Tomlinson that a Regimental Central Committee should be set up towards co-ordinating the work of our several regimental funds, clubs and institutions, and settling their definite policy. It is not for us to enlarge on this proposal, but perhaps we may be allowed to venture the opinion that it is one which, if carried out, seems to be associated with great opportunities.

Mr. W. G. Martin late of the 1st. Battalion, and one time Transport Officer, has taken over "The Anchor" Hotel, Littlebourne, and would always be pleased to see any old Buffs.

Mr. A. C. Cheeseman (late no. 240198 Sgt., 1/5 Buffs), in ordering a copy of the History, says "No Buff, or friend of a Buff, should be without one." We endorse his sentiments emphatically. Mr. Cheeseman writes from East Farleigh.

We regret to hear that Captain H. W. Jackson is still at Millbank Hospital and his leg is not making very satisfactory progress. He is likely to be there some time longer.

We regret very much to learn of the death of Sergt. (late Drummer) Bartlett, suddenly from pneumonia. Sergeant Bartlett was for several years at the Depot, and played hockey for the Depot team.

Consequent on the reduction of establishments in Iraq (Mesopotamia) Captain A. J. Peareth has returned to England and has been granted six months leave, during which he intends to work for the Staff College.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. R. Carley, who was one of F. Company's winning tug-of-war team at Harrismith and was severely wounded in the war, is still incapacitated. He is trying to start a small green-grocery business at Headcorn where he lives.

There was a great meeting of Buffs at tea at St. George's Golf Club, Sandwich, on the first Sunday in April: Colonel and Mrs. Power, Major and Mrs. Howard Smith, Majors Tomlinson and Crookenden, Captains Baird, Morgan and Vertue and Lt. Willows.

We hear that Major Cobbe has gone up to London for three months and that Major Ternan, having let his flat for six months, will be spending his summer at Littlehampton.

Colonel and Mrs. Eaton hope to go off fishing to Norway in the near future; they will be away some months.

Colonel R. W. Fox (late Warwickshire Regt.) still keeps in touch with the 2nd Battalion which he commanded for some time in Salonika. Sergeant Major Andrews posts him in its doings from time to time.

Colonel Fox tells us that when playing golf at Croham Hurst last month he met Mr. Bosman who was in the 2nd Battalion under him.

To Mr. W. A. Greaves of Catford we extend our best thanks for his splendid effort in trying to increase the circulation of the *Dragon*. Lying in front of us are his three letters relating to the paper, publication of which he secured in the Kentish Mercury, Kentish Independent, and Erith Observer. If any of our other readers could secure similar support from their local press, the service rendered would be invaluable.

We have been favoured with a brochure relating to the Stadium Club which is shortly to be opened in High Holborn. From this it certainly would appear that members will have no reason to complain of not receiving full value for the moderate subscription asked for.

Personalia—*continued.*

In this number of the *Dragon* will be found the suggestions received up to date for our special number to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the Regiment which falls this year. We hope that these are merely the forerunners of many others, and we would again ask our readers to submit to us as soon as possible their individual proposals.

Having written the above, may we again say how much we would appreciate being supplied more than we are, with the voice of our readers, this being of such tremendous assistance to us in our endeavour to make the *Dragon* as interesting and acceptable as possible. The *Dragon* seldom appears without a request to our readers from some source for an expression of their views on some subject or other, such as for instance, the continuation of competitions, features for the Anniversary Number, where and when should be held the Annual Dinner, etc., etc. But to be quite frank the number of letters we receive on these matters is to say the least of it disappointing.

So may we again invite our readers not to be sparing in their criticisms, to send us their news, to let us have short articles, drawings and photographs, and to send us along their individual opinions on the several " Bones of Contention " which appear from time to time in our pages. And we would particularly ask that Our Enquiry Bureau may be used to its fullest extent.

Past and Present Buffs seen at the East Kent Point-to-Point races held at Smeeth on Easter Monday were the following:—Brig.-Gen. Finch-Hatton; Lt.-Cols. Power and Lucas; Majors Crookenden, Tomlinson, Jackson, Guy Lee, Foster and Chapman; Captains Allen, Vertue, Essell, Baird and Strettell, and Lieuts. Tuke, Davies, Wilson, Wale, Gem, Rose, Spear, Webster, and Willows. The only Buff riding was Lt. Chester whose mount unfortunately was not quite good enough on this occasion.

It was our good fortune recently when playing Golf St. George's, Sandwich, to be allotted a Buff caddy. This was Mr. F. Watson, late 662 of the 1st Battalion and who joined in 1892. And a very excellent caddy he was too, very different to the one we bumped up against at the meeting of the Army Golfing Society whose knowledge of golf was not quite sufficient to enable him to distinguish between a niblick and a putter. The climax came however, when he presented us with a brassie at a time when we were up to our necks in a bunker, a by no means an unusual occurrence. Asked " what the blankety blank he thought he was doing," his bland reply was " Seems ter me yer hit further with this club than any other."

All of which brings us to announce that Major General Sir Guy Bainbridge and Capt. Baird were the only two Buffs taking part in the Army meeting which was played at Deal under the most searching weather conditions. Unfortunately General Sir Arthur Paget, whose cup is competed for by officers of General Rank, was not able to be present. As regards results we regret that pressure on our space prevents us from being able to record scores made by our two representatives!

It is hoped that all past and present regular officers, within reach of London on Wednesday the 14th, will make a note that the Dragon Club Dinner takes place at the Trocodero Restaurant on that day. With both Battalions overseas the number present must in any case be on the small side which best explains the request for a special effort to be made this year by the comparatively few available.

And whilst on the subject of golf, why not an Annual match between Past and Present Officers of The Regiment, during the Depot Week! And also, incidentally, what about tennis, inclusive of a match against the Sergeants?

We are indebted to Col. Sir Courtney Vyvyan for sending us a number of back numbers of *The Dragon*. These have been of great assistance to us in completing our files, and we invite others amongst our readers who may be able to help us in this way to communicate with us.

We were sorry to see Capt. R. K. Price defeated in the 1st round of the Amateur Tennis Championship played at Manchester. His victor was the Master of Kelvedon who apparently played the game of his life.

Mr. J. Leaver, late 7145 Sergt., 2nd Battalion, asks us to state that he has now moved to 33 Saville Road, Silvertown, S.E. 16, and would like to hear from any old friends in the 2nd Battalion.

The following are some additional names of old Buff officers who have settled in Kent. Major General Sir Arthur Lynden Bell at Wrotham, Lt.Col. Bradley Dyne at Sevenoaks, Lt.-Col. Hulke at Deal, and Major Nicholas at Minster. And Mrs. Ronald and Mrs. Backhouse are at Deal and Patrixbourne respectively.

We hear that Mrs. Macdouall, Mrs. Crookenden, and Mrs. Gould are all likely to remain in Canterbury until such time as it may be possible for them to join their husbands with the 1st Battalion.

We are glad to have had the opportunity of giving Mr. Goldup of Hythe some assistance in getting a self-propelled chair from the Ministry of Pensions. Goldup was one of those unfortunate ones to lose both legs in the Great War, and is much to be admired in the way he overcame this searching disability. The best of good luck to him.

We apologize to Mr. F. McDermott for the wrong spelling of his name in the last number of the *Dragon* where he was shown as C.Q.M.S. McDurwatt in our list of old Buff members of the Canterbury United Services Club.

The record of the Carter family on page 150 provides the most interesting reading, and we are hoping very much that the Kesby's and the Smith's will take up the friendly challenge thrown out in the covering letter which accompanies it. And there are, of course, many other families who have had a long connection with the Regiment and from all of these we would equally like their record.

Whilst on the subject of " Family Records," it gives us much pleasure briefly to refer to that of Colonel W. E. R. Kelly, who himself completed no less than forty-three and a half years service on the active list, almost all of which was spent with the Buffs. We have in front of us a record of the Kelly family from the year 1764, which tells us that no less than twenty-one members of the family have served their King and Country during the last 158 years, and taken part in almost every campaign in which the British Army has been engaged during that time. Colonel Kelly, is, of course, still with us living at Datchet, where on the 8th October last he and Mrs. Kelly, whose health we hear is much improved, spent their Golden Wedding. *The Dragon* sends the best of good wishes to both.

Past and Present Notes.

Members are reminded that the Annual Dinner takes place on Saturday, 7th October, at the Cannon Street Hotel.

I hope shortly to let all members know about the Annual Cricket match. It is hoped that many more "Old" Buffs will turn up this year, especially amongst those residing in or around Canterbury.

A very large number of members have recently left the service. Will they kindly forward their address in order that it may be recorded.

Can any of our readers *definitely* state, where "Dan" Dines died. I have heard of several places, and seen the War Office notification of place and date of death. But his name still appears in recent Army Lists and I have reason to believe he was seen in Bombay last year.

I hope in our next issue to be in a position to give full details of his whereabouts, if alive, or official place of burial, if dead. W. O. gives place of death Egypt.

A. ANDREWS,
R.Q.M.S.,
Hon. Sec.

The Lack of a Central Committee.

BY MAJOR F. W. TOMLINSON.

THE article in your April number, signed E.F.D.S. on the subject of the Past and Present Association and Benevolent Fund is significant in so far as it reveals how lacking we are, as a regiment, in the machinery essential to a proper co-ordination of regimental (as opposed to battalion or depot) funds, clubs and institutions.

I venture to suggest that the vote of readers of the *Dragon* as to whether the Regimental Dinner and Dragon Clubs should be amalgamated, or whether benefits from the Benevolent Fund should be contingent on membership of the Past and Present Association, will never decide these questions. Your readers' opinions will, of course, be always valuable, but they will remain unproductive of any results just so long as we lack a central committee, vested with full powers and authority who can weigh the opinions obtained through your columns or other channels, and init ate changes of policy accordingly. Such a committee would report from time to time to the Colonel of the regiment who would, if he approved them, give effect to their recommendations. The Colonel of the regiment is, in fact, the only existing authority who can properly issue instructions to the whole regiment.

Some Stop Press.

Amidst great rejoicing and enthusiasm, The Buffs Depot Football Team, beat The Lesser Stour in the final of the Charity Hospital Cup by 3-1, on Saturday, April 29th.

GOAL SCORERS.

Lieut. Chester, Sgt. Maillard, and Pte. Drumgold.

Congratulations and Well Done to all Members of the Team, and also to R.S.M. Dare who has worked so hard to bring about this success.

Regimental Notabilities.

Captain and Q.-Master F. H. Keeler.

Born in Canterbury; Joined 2nd Battalion at Dover, 1888; To India 1889; L/Cpl. 1890; with S. and T. Corps in Manipur Expedition 1890; Instructor Calcutta Vol. and Northern Bengal Mtd. Rifles 1891–92; Cpl. 1892; Sgt. 1896; served on North West Frontier 1897–98; Burmah 1901–2; Aden 1903; Musketry Instructor 1896–99; Col. Sgt. 1899; Orderly Room Sgt. 1899–1903; R.Q.M.S. 1903–1912; to Dover with 1st Battalion 1904; Lt. and Q.-Master 4th Battalion 1913; to India, October 1914; Aden Field Force 1915–16; Capt. 1916; Punjaub Disturbances 1919.

DECORATIONS.

Chitral 1895; Long Service and G. C. Medal; 1915 Star; Victory and British War Medal; Mentioned in Despatches 1919.

One time Sub-Editor, *The Dragon*, and now in Dibgate Camp and, like Charley's Aunt still going strong.

The 1st Battalion.

"ONCE more unto the breach, dear friends, once more." And by the time these words appear in print we shall have filled that breach and shall already have written home to our loved ones giving vivid details of the journey out and of the town of Constantinople itself.

At the moment of writing, we are due to embark at Southampton on the S.S. "*Huntsend*" on Friday, 21st April, and we are busy making arrangements for the comfort and welfare of those being left behind, and struggling to pack large quantities of kit into accommodation meant for much less.

But it is with mixed feelings that we prepare for embarkation. Our great regret is that we leave our wives and children (and sweethearts !) behind us, with no knowledge of the length of time which must elapse before we meet them again.

Yet thoughts arise of the joys of soldiering in the East. Some of the battalion will renew acquaintanceship with places already visited, but to most our next station is an unopened book. Whether we are going to Bostangik (on the coast of the Sea of Marmora) or to Yildez (near Constantinople) remains to be seen. But it is a new field for most of us.

Evidently, from what one hears, mosquitoes, sandflies and unusual health precaution, are going to cramp our style somewhat, but it is all in a soldier's life, so who cares ?

We bid farewell to our friends in Kent especially those at the Depot where we leave several who, alas ! are unable to go out with us. To those left behind we wish a happy future. Sadness creeps uppermost when we remember those we leave behind in the dear Homeland ; but we ask them to remember that the 1st Battalion, which will not return for many many years, will still play the game out there, and fresh buds of honour will have blossomed ere that far off day arrives when we meet again.

To those who, as they read these notes, are already out on The Great Adventure, we commend the immortal words put into King Henry V's mouth by Shakespeare, as the British Troops set foot out of England :—

" And you, good yeomen,
Whose limbs were made in England, show us here
The mettle of your pasture ; let us swear
That you are worth your breeding ; which I doubt not ;
For there is none of you so mean and base,
That hath not noble lustre in your eyes.
I see you stand like greyhounds in the slips,
Straining upon the start. The game's afoot :
Follow your spirit, and upon this charge
Cry " God for Harry, England and Saint George."

In Brief.

For the benefit of our friends we herewith append our new address :—1st Battalion The Buffs, British Army of Occupation, Constantinople.

We have said farewell to Capt. Thomas, and to Lts. Webster, Price and L. Symons, who have left us for the Depot. May good fortune attend them in the future.

At the moment of writing all 1st Battalion Officers except the above-named, and with the addition of Capt. N. S. Hart are under orders to embark for the Near East.

Major E. T. Gould has now joined the battalion and has taken over the command of " D " Company.

Lts. R. Tuke and C. J. Wood were recently examined at Dover in subject (*b*) for promotion. Robin said it was easier than taking a wire fence but what does a soldier want to know about The Pescadores ?

The congratulation of all ranks were extended to Captain L. Easell on his recent promotion.

A most enjoyable concert was given to the Battalion by the Folkestone Detachment of the 4th Battalion on 23rd March last, an account of which will be found on page 155.

The Mayor of Folkestone and the O.C. 4th Battalion welcomed the 1st Battalion to Kent and wished them God-speed in their Eastern future.

Colonel Power replied in a happy speech and thanked the 4th Battalion for a very jolly evening.

" Punch " said it was ' some ' night.

Shorncliffe Military Point to Point Races were held on 3rd April. Several officers took part ; unfortunately a 4th place was the best they could manage.

On 18th March, the Battalion Hockey side lost after a good game by 2–1 to Ashford.

A Great Evening.

It was a happy thought of the C.O. to arrange for a foregathering between the Officers now serving with the Battalion and those now resident in Kent. This took the form of a dinner in the Mess on April 8th at which the following officers were present :—

Past Officers :—Major-General Sir A. Lynden Bell, K.C.B., Brig.-Generals A. J. Whitacre Allen, H. C. de la M. Hill, C.B., E. H. Finch Hatton, C.M.G., D.S.O., Col. T. Buttanshaw, Lt.-Col. W. A. Eaton, O.B.E., C. P. Lloyd, L. Bradley Dyne, R. S. I. Friend, D.S.O., Majors G. A. E. Chapman, D.S.O. and A. E. Colley, and Capt. H. H. C. Baird, D.S.O.

Present Officers :—Lt.-Colonels McDouall, C.B., C.M.G., Power, D.S.O., Lucas, D.S.O., M.C., Majors Crookenden, D.S.O., Jackson, Lee, D.S.O., Captains A. B. Thomson, M.B.E., Allen, M.C., Vertue, M.C., Causton, M.C., Essell, Cook, Lieuts. Davies, M.C., Pritchard, O.B.E., Wale, Keble, Wilson, M.B.E., Reid, M.C., Rose, Spear and 2/Lt. Crozier.

It was a great evening, spent for the greater part in renewing old friendships and making new ones. The toast of the evening was proposed by the C.O., who referred to the " Dear Old Buffs " whom they were so glad to welcome among them. And this, in the absence on the Continent, of General Sir Arthur Paget, Colonel of the Regiment, was replied to by General Sir Arthur Lynden Bell who asked us to raise our glasses to the Subalterns of the Regiment, to whom he referred as being those upon whose shoulders the responsibility so closely lies of " carrying on " the great traditions of the Regiment. A little speech which drew an apt reply from Lt. Davies. Yes. It was a great evening, enjoyed by all of us, and a thousand thanks to the C.O. for the thought of arranging it.

Football.

1st Buffs v. Dover United.

This match was played at Dover on April 5th and after a great game before a large crowd ended in a draw 1–1. In this match Pte. Andrews at right half played a brilliant game, as also did Cpl. Rice, and Pte. Lewis who scored our only goal.

Our team was as follows :—

Pte. Church ; Pte. Andrews, Pte. Pearsall ; Pte. Mancer, Cpl. Rice, Cpl. Shaw ; Lt. Thorne-Thorne, Cpl. McLean, Pte. Lewis, Cpl. Rye, Cpl. James.

The 1st Battalion—*continued,*

THE SERGEANTS' MESS.

This month has again seen us busy packing up, this time for Constantinople, and I suppose, the commencement of our tour abroad. We have had a good month socially, several whist drives and dances being held. Our first "beginners" dance competition resulted in a win for Sgt. Gibson, who waltzed like a veritable fairy, helped no doubt by Mr. George Beer and Co.

Our big farewell dance was admirably arranged by Sgt. Jones, and proved a great success. One was very much struck by the number of old friends present, including a party of over 30 from the Depot. The latter also brought their band, which rendered excellent music during the evening, a service for which we are much indebted.

A very enjoyable evening was also spent when we met the "Oddfellows" in a series of games which resulted in a win for us. Apart from the games, this was a distinct social success, especially the recitation by Mr. Cork, a survivor of Rorke's Drift. All are looking forward to the return match which takes place at Cheriton on the 18th.

Our last and very last "social" took place on the 15th the Mess being crowded to its fullest extent. Several visitors were entertained; including Donkey Warren, Tuny Cloy, and Spud Austen (of officers' Mess fame). Molly Marshall and Dick Glover have also visited us.

Our next notes will come from "Harem Land," when a full description of Constantinople is promised. (*M'yes, but what about the Lady Editress?*)

A COMPANY.

Ever since we arrived at Shorncliffe we seem to have been either going on leave or just coming back. Now we are all "at home" in barracks deprived of our heavy kit, suffering from the ill effects of inoculation, and feeling generally upset with the weather which has not been any too kind to us since we have been in these parts of the world.

Though we are theoretically "at home," we don't seem to be there very much, our real homes are usually so near, and the attractions in Folkestone seem so numerous that barracks are the places where we fill in our spare minutes.

We were all very sorry to lose C.S.M. Follett on his departure for duty at the depot after all these years with the company. We welcome C.S.M. Bones who will no doubt carry on in the same old way.

Several old friends seem to have disappeared since we have been here to mention them all would fill up a column, to mention a few would give them swollen heads, so we wish them all wherever they may be the best of luck and a good time in their new sphere of activity.

We welcome ten recruits from the depot—they really haven't had time to settle before they are off and away seeing the world at the Government's expense.

With everybody on leave and the atrocious weather there has been little opportunity of thinking about games, so in this respect there is nothing to record.

Before closing we want to say farewell to all those who can't come out with us. May their lot be a happy one whether this be in their huts on the plains of St. Martin, or under the shade of Bell Harry.

B COMPANY.

This month has been very eventful. Many changes havee taken place. We have lost Lieuts. Webster and Price, both of whom have proceeded to the Depot. We were able to say goodbye to Lt. Price, but we unfortunately missed Lt. Webster, as we had hoped to give him a fitting send-off. Best of luck to them both in the future.

Once again we have a new Company Commander, and all ranks join in welcoming Major Crookenden to the Company. Many of us have soldiered under him before, as he has been in command of the Depot for the last three years and it is no doubt owing to his influence, that some of us younger ones *are the soldiers that we are.*

We were sorry to learn that C.S.M. Goodwin and C.Q.M.S. Austen were not to proceed overseas with us, but we wish them all they wish themselves, at the same time welcoming Sergt. Dixon from A Company to be C.S.M. and Sgt. Burt from the Machine Gun Platoon to be C.Q.M.S. the latter of whom only left us a month ago.

By the time these notes appear in the *Dragon* we shall no doubt be on the "ocean wave" and next month I hope to be able to give you Mr Editor a good account of our journey too? Yes, no one knows exactly where but we're going somewhere, that is evident, by the amount of tapping and banging going on.

We have not played much sport this month, but we played "A" at footbtll on the 12th, A being the winners 4.3, a match in which we were pleased to see our new C.S.M playing at right half.

We welcome all the new people from the Depot Congratulations to Pte. Shardlow on winning the A.R.A. medal for the best shot of the Recruits. Well played Shardlow.

The following left us during the month:—Ptes. Brown, Meade, Indley and Young, and good luck to them in the future.

T.B.

B. & W. FISK-MOORE,
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Departure of 1st Battalion.

BY A DEPOT EYE-WITNESS.

WE heard that the 1st Battalion was due to leave Shornecliffe by the 8.10 a.m. train on 22nd April, so we decided that the officers and certain W.O.'s, N.C.O.'s and the band should go down to see them before they went. As the Sergeants had a dance on Friday night the difficulty of getting up before reveille was obviated, as most of them, I understand saw the clock round.

At 6.30 a.m. two hired lorries arrived at the Depot. The band went off first, followed by the car containing six officers and some 10 W.O.'s and N.C.O.'s. Major G. Lee went off independently on his motor combination, and there was some speculation as to whether he would get there in time. However he managed alright.

The only mishap on the way down was that the engine of the band lorry got overheated. This was only temporary stoppage luckily and we arrived just in time to shorthead them on the way to the station.

When we arrived we heard the unfortunate news that Lt.-Col. McDouall was unavoidably prevented from taking out his battalion owing to the severe illness of Mrs. McDouall. We hope this will only be temporary, and that Mrs. McDouall will recover soon.

The Battalion headed by the Band of the 1st East Yorks, who had been kindly lent by Lt.-Col. Headlam, swung into sight just as we got to the station.

For the first few minutes all were so busy, that we had no opportunity of making our presence known. However, when the leading company had started moving into the station we were able to mingle among them, and chat to old friends. We noticed, for instance, that R.Q.M.S. Evans looked as if he had all troubles of the world on his shoulders!

Most of the officers of the Battalion looked very pleased with themselves—perhaps they had *not* attended a Sergeants' Dance the night before!—Farewells were mingled with words of Command and eventually the whole Battalion was successfully entrained. And, amidst much hand-shaking, a few tears, shouts from the Guard and Station Staff, as they tried to shut the carriage doors, and the strains of Auld Lang Syne played by the Depot Band, the train slowly moved out of the station.

On the return journey to Canterbury, the lorry containing the Officers, W.O.'s and N.C.O.'s broke down. The driver informed us that the "big end" had gone. What that means and whether he is still looking for it, I don't know. Suffice it to say, that a dozen or so exceedingly hungry, khaki-clad individuals were left stranded by the dusty roadside until a relief lorry arrived.

The British Legion.

(*from a correspondent*).

THE Canterbury Branch of The British Legion visited Littlebourne Branch at Even Hill House, (W. H. Maxted's) on Thursday, April 6th. Pleasant and interesting games were played, resulting in Littlebourne winning 8 and Canterbury 5. An enjoyable musical programme was given during the evening by Messrs. Will Humphrey, Upton, Reynolds and Thompson (Secretary of the Littlebourne Branch). Mr. M. Sillars accompanied at the piano.

Amongst those present were Lt.-Col. C. E. Baynes, Messrs. R and M. Sillars, Lt. Bell and W. Terry (Organising Secretary of the Canterbury Branch). Severa old Buffs were also present. (*Names please! Ed.*)

The War History.

INTENDING purchasers of "The War History of the Buffs," are invited to register their names with Major F. W. Tomlinson, 2, Cavendish Square, W. 1, at their earliest convenience.

Safety First.

From a Correspondent.

MANY of the recruiting sergeants of former days, were men gifted with considerable powers of imagination and persuasion ; and there is no doubt that these talents were at times exercised rather with a view to increasing the number of recruits than with a strict regard to facts. In other words they were inclined to exaggerate the advantages of a soldier's life as compared with the condition of a civilian.

We can look back now on their gallant efforts against great difficulties with sympathy and admiration, and they would open wide eyes of wonder could they but see the change that has come over things in our enlightened times. Never in their most eloquent moments would they have dreamed of telling the prospective recruit, that the best thing to do, if a man wished to live a healthy, safe and comfortable life in the present disturbed state of the world, would be to join the army.

Formerly, to take this country as an example, there was no comparison between the danger and hardships of the soldier's life, and the safety and comfort enjoyed by those who remained at home. But in these days things are very different. Let us suppose that a Great War once more breaks out. The fighting man is armed and trained. He knows where to go and what to do. He has been taught to take cover, to construct trenches and dug-outs and shelters, to avoid dangerous places, to camouflage his refuges from aerial attack. He knows where to find his food, his hospitals, his doctors and surgeons, his nurses, his chaplains. He has his rifle, machine gun, fighting or bombing plane, he can hit back and should he have the misfortune to become a prisoner, he has at least a chance, of surviving till the end of the war.

Now let us look at the civilian's position. Let us suppose that he lives in some large inland town. Immediately swarms of Aircraft set out to destroy his city. Guns from enormous distances proceed to shell it. Day and night he exists amid the crash of falling houses, immense fires, clouds of poison gas. Terrible rumours of defeats and impending ruin circulate all around him. Food and clothing can only be obtained at extortionate prices, in uncertain quantities, by waiting long hours in endless queues. Doctors and surgeons are very scarce and harassed and worn out. If he works in a munition factory, he knows that he is in a place specially marked out for attack and liable to be blown sky high.

Untrained in mind and body, in fact, ignorant of the extent of what is real and what is fancied danger, unarmed and helpless with all his habits, all his values, all his world in fact, crashing around him, the condition of even the most resolute civilian in wartime cannot be otherwise than pitiable in the extreme.

On the continent of Europe, it is still worse than in this Island. There, towns and villages are fought for by the opposing armies and the non-soldier, is as helpless as a rabbit would be, who had not inherited the instinct to burrow into the ground on the approach of danger. So complete has been the transformation effected by modern conditions and the constant improvement of the most deadly inventions, that it may well happen that at the mere prospect of war, all but the most heroic will rush to join the fighting forces.

The most expert lawyers will sit to consider the cases of those who feel that they are not justified in running the risks of civilian life, and volunteers will be called for from our most famous regiments, to fill the places of eminent civilians anxious to enjoy the privileges of a military life. The time may not be far distant when Insurance companues will awaken to these new conditions and demand a much higher premium from those who belong to the dangerous civilian status and a greatly reduced one from those enjoying the comparative security of active service.

Our Anniversary Number.

IT will be remembered that, last month, we called for suggestions for our proposed special number in celebration of the 350th Anniversary of the Regiment, which falls this year. To be quite frank, we are a little disappointed that so few have helped us with their suggestions. So we renew our appeal, at the same time thanking Col. Dauglish, Major Tomlinson, and Major Guy Lee for sending us the following.

FROM COL. DAUGLISH.

I have been thinking over your splendid idea of bringing out an anniversary number of the Dragon, and suggest that it might be suitable to give an extract from an article in Macmillan's Magazine written some 12 years ago by J. W. Fortescue, which he also embodied in his history of the British Army.

The point of my suggestion however is this: Fortescue emphasises that The Buffs, in a very particular degree, is in its origin, the representative regiment of the British Army.

To quote a few lines which I have with me in another book—" It was the War of Dutch Independence which made the modern English soldier, and was, in fact, the school of the modern British Army. Moreover, there is with us a famous corps which dates it's birth from those stirring times, and is, indeed, a standing memorial of the Army's 'prentice years " ....." And so the Buffs remain the unique relic of the British Volunteers in the Low Countries ; it has the longest pedigree of any corps in the service, and represents the original model of that sorely-tried institution, the British Army."

G. V. DAUGLISH.

FROM MAJ. F. W. TOMLINSON.

I think your idea of producing a special 350th anniversary number of the *Dragon* this year is excellent, and I hope that you may find it possible to bring it out in August when, as you know, I hope to organize an exhibition of Buff trophies, medals, prints, etc. at Canterbury.

My ideas as to the form your special number should take are, I am afraid, rather vague. I hope at any rate that it may be possible to have plenty of illustrations. I should like to see a list of every battle in which the regiment ever fought, with the date of each. There are certainly over 80 names.

Then I should like to see a list of all the Colonels of the Buffs, from Sir Thomas Morgan down to Sir Arthur Paget—illustrated where possible. Also reproductions of various costume plates.

Sir Francis Doyle's poem, A Private of the Buffs, might be reprinted (it is I think, some time since it appeared in the *Dragon*).

You might include an authoritative account of how we came to have our green dragon badge and the origin of our motto ; a description of the various colours that have been used ; and an explanation of the several nicknames by which the regiment has been known.

FROM MAJOR GUY LEE.

(1). Produce *early* in August. To be on sale daily on St. Lawrence Cricket Ground during the week, also during *our* Week.,
(2). Publish more photos if possible.
(3). Include a brief History of the Regiment.

[*Further suggestions are earnestly invited. Ed.*]

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B. & W. FISK-MOORE,
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Kodaks. **Tel. 337.**

The Buffs.

(With acknowledgements to The Field)

IN THE TIME OF ELIZABETH.

THERE are many Regiments, of course, whose names are household words to the man in the street, but perhaps so far as London is concerned there is not one which has a more familiar sound than the Buffs (East Kent Regiment). This can in a way be easily understood for this is a corps whose fortunes have been intimately bound up with that of the metropolis, and as Cannon says in his records :

" This distinguished regiment is the representative of that renowned body of British troops which fought in the glorious cause of Civil anf Religious Liberty in the Netherlands, during the reigns of Queen Elizabeth, King James I., and King Charles I., and which by their valour and prowess during a struggle of more than 70 years enabled the brave and persevering inhabitants of the " United Provinces " to wrest their country from Spanish domination, and to obtain from the other powers of Europe an acknowledgement of their independence as a free State."

It was in the month of March, 1572, that Londoners, in obedience to orders issued by the virgin queen, selected from their several companies 3,000 men who were equipped as men-at-arms and musketeers, and instructed by experienced officers. Capt. Thomas Morgan, a Low Country officer, at this time raised a company of 300 men, among whom were upwards of 100 gentlemen of property, and it was this company that formed the nucleus of a numerous body of British troops, which after the Peace of Munster in 1648 was reduced to one regiment, and having been recalled to England in 1665 ultimately became the 3rd Regiment of Foot, and the one whose story is now being sketched. This statement will be referred to again later on.

Fortescue in his *History of the British Army*, writing of this period, says, " London as usual led the van of military improvement. In the year following the departure of Morgan's company 3,000 men of the trained bands were formed into a special corps, which was mustered three times a week for exercise, and having been armed with weapons of the newest pattern was regularly drilled by experienced officers on the once-famous ground at Mile End. William Shakespeare it is evident was one of the spectators that went from time to time to see them, and no doubt laughed his fill at the failings of the recruits. These were sometimes not a little serious. Thus one caliverman left his scouring stick in the barrel, and accidentally shot it into the side of a comrade, whereof the comrade died ; so that the whole body of calivermen gained the enjoyment of a military funeral in St. Paul's Churchyard, whither they followed the corpse with trailing pikes and solemn countenances, and at the close of the ceremony fired their pieces over the grave."

No doubt there was a good deal to smile at in those early days, but, as the talented historian just quoted very soon shows in his entertaining story, the British fighting man of those times quickly learned his lesson, and developed into a first-class soldier whose name was known and respected all over Europe.

SIR THOMAS MORGAN AND HIS SUCCESSORS.

The early commanders of the above-mentioned company of 300, which may be said to have laid the foundations of the Buffs, were men of note in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, and Thomas Morgan, who was born in 1572 did good work, while he should also be remembered as being one of the pioneers who first taught the English to love the musket, but his successors have an equal claim to be remembered.

Thus of Sir John Norris, Churchyard writes that at the battle of Reminant, near Malines, " the greatest glory of this fight fell to the courageous Colonel Norris, who arrived with eleven companies of English ; he had

QUEEN ELIZABETH ADDRESSING HER TROOPS AT TILBURY.

three horses slain under him, and with great valour he pursued and subdued his enemies." Old Stow adds : " He was renowned throughout the world ; he was excellent either to plant a siege or raise a siege, and he could pitch a battle bravely, and he had five brethren all of them valiant and expert commanders."

Fortescue says of the above-mentioned battle that the Spanish troops consisted of the famous Old Regiment, which had not then its peer in Europe, but that with all their magnificent training and discipline they could not carry the position. Three times they forced the British back, and three times when success seemed assured they were met by resistance, and were hurled back in their turn. The day was intensely hot, and the British scorning all armour fought in their shirt sleeves, but they fought hard, and not only hard, but thanks to John Norris in good order.

If Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, evinced no particular military talent, Peregrine, Lord Willoughby, the ancestor of the Dukes of Ancaster, was one of the Queen's first swordsmen, and Churchyard says of him that he was " pregnant in wit, prompt in knowledge, and well practised in military actions, whereby he became a most rare and surpassing ornament of his country, and a worthy instrument for the service of his Prince." *(To be continued).*

The 2nd Battalion.

THE Battalion started its journey on February 9th, when we embarked on the river boat P.S. 16 to go down the Tigris to Basra. As usual we managed to hit a sand bank or two en route, one so hard in fact, that the boat swung right round. And as there was a gale blowing up-river, it took us nearly twelve hours to get going again in the right direction. However, we eventually got to Basra and went alongside the "Vasna," which was to take us to Bombay; the usual bustle then commenced over transferring the baggage, which took about five hours.

The next morning found us moving in the right direction, and I don't think many in the Battalion were moved to tears when they saw Mespot disappearing on the horizon. The voyage was uneventful, the great event of the day being the Band discoursing sweet music each afternoon. We all hoped to find the "Braemar Castle" in port, so that we could trans-ship straight away, thereby avoiding Deolali. These hopes were rudely shattered, and after rather a warm day at Ballard Pier, we left by train for Deolali.

Once more we heaved the baggage about, and found ourselves safely under canvas for the next three weeks. We had plenty of sport at Deolali, which helped to get us fit again after the voyage, to say nothing of a little Field Training in the mornings!!

Nevertheless, we were very glad to see the "Braemar Castle" on March 7th, and to start on our last stage. The voyage was uneventful, and finally we saw Aden, our future home, on the morning of March 16th. The 2nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers, whom we relieved, sailed for Home on the 17th, having been here sixteen months!

With the Advance Party.

The Advance Party and the T.X. Details left Amara on January 6th for Basra. On the way down stream we enjoyed some sport in shooting wild pig from the side of the ship; Sgts. Mannering and Deeks did some good shooting, but, on landing, the ground proved too marshy to enable us to follow up.

At Basra we had some football, playing a drawn game with the T.X. details of the East Yorkshire Regt., and beating 3rd Echelon, the runners-up in the Basra League, 2–1.

On the 13th we parted company with our T.X. men, and sailed for Bombay per S.S. "Vasna." Unfortunately Lt.-Col. Potter contracted measles on the way, so on arrival at Bombay, we were sent to Deolali, where we were segregated for ten days.

January 31st found us once more on the sea in H.T. "Brandenburg." R.Q.M.S. Edwards and C.Q.M.S. Smith were on board, bound for U.K., the latter for transfer to the Home Establishment.

We reached Aden on February 6th, just a month after we left Amara, and were soon made at home by the 2nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers. They were very glad to see us, as they had nearly given up hoping for us to relieve them, having been told originally that we were arriving in November!

Aden is a great improvement on Mespot, and is not so black as it is painted. The one great disadvantage is that the Battalion will be split up here, with a detachment at Steamer Point, of which more will be heard next month.

"Advance Party."

The Sergeants' Mess.
(Crater).

Once again we are stationary after much shifting and have managed to settle down again to the routine of "Peace Time." The Mess itself is situated about the centre of barracks, and comprises one whole building with a thatched roof which, when it rains (which by all accounts it did not do prior to our coming here) lets the water in like a sieve. But as, up to the time of writing we have only had five days of this, things are not too bad; very different to Amara where rain and mud was the order for the time that we were there.

Thanks to our caterer ("Deeko") the mess has been tastefully decorated and, with the silver etc. now with us, once more puts the final touches to things. The only thing absent is a billiard table, but we live in hopes of obtaining one of these yet.

Owing to the Battalion being split up, with A and C boys at Steamers Point, where they also have quite a nice mess with Sgt. Mannering ("King Feizel") doing caterer (by the right), visits are frequently paid there by the Headquarters, and also to the Artillery mess on their weekly whist drive.

We are having our first practice dance on April 1st. This, as well as all subsequent dances, will be held in the gymnasium which is the only place possible, and we are looking forward to some most enjoyable evenings.

We are pleased to welcome back the bandmaster to the Mess after his furlough to the U.K. also Sergt. Howard from educational course and Sgt. Larkin from U.K. with the draft.

Our congratulations to Q.M.Sergt (O.R.Sergt) Ings on his appointment to R.Q.M.S., and to C.S.M. Guerin on appointment to Q.M.S. (O.R. Sergt.).

Appended is a joke which I can vouch as being perfectly true.

A Kirkuk Scene.

C.S.M. "?" Coy. "Now, that we have sent all these N.C.Os., and men on Convoy Duty, I'm performing the duties of Orderly Cpl., Orderly Sgt., and Sgt. Major combined."

S.M. "Well, you can do it, can't you?"

C.S.M. "Oh yes I don't mind doing a bit of extra work when it's needed.

N.C.O. i/c (Who is the junior N.C.O. of "?" Coy) :—"Drummer sound.

H.Q.Guard Orderly Cpl. of "16" Coy. A man under detension here wants his razor." (Bugle sounds).

C.S.M. "Well I'm jiggered, I'm the Orderly Cpl., what the smoke is wanted now?"

S.M. "Come on C.S.M. Left Right, Left, Right, quick as you can, answer that call."

C.S.M. "I'm blessed if it ain't alright, the N.C.O. of Hqr. Guard getting his own back with me. Anyhow I suppose I must answer"—Left, Right, Left, Right.

C.S.M. to I/c i/c H.Q. Guard. "What do you mean by playing this trick on me Lance-Corporal?"

N.C.O. i/c Guard "No trick sir—you're Orderly Cpl., and get that man's razor here as quick as you can." Off goes the C.S.M. to get the razor, the N.C.O. shouting at the top of his voice "Left, Right" etc. as quick as you can."

The Corporals.

Alas, alack sad news to relate. One of the senior members of the Dido Club has been awarded a Field General Court Martial. Although we feel sorry for our comrade, we cannot but say that he deserves it. More on the subject anon.

On Friday 19th we had a Musical Evening in honour of the marriage of Lady Thompson. The Amara Cook Jazz Band were engaged for this event and enlivened the proceedings at intervals during the evening. Padre was invited, but was unable to attend so the Rev. James Annan officiated in his absence.

The first event was the trial by F.G.C.M. of Cpl. Every; who was charged with "whilst a senior member of the Dido Club, wilfully and with malice aforethought, absenting himself from the Mess." Such disgraceful conduct could not go unpunished, and after a brave attempt by the Prisoner's Friend, Cpl. Standing, the accused N.C.O., was found "guilty," and sentenced to stand, in undress uniform under the electric fan for three minutes.

Then commenced the Music. The Amara Cook Jazz Band opened with the well known Overture "Ding, Dong, Dell." After several songs by members came the chief event of the evening, "The marriage of Lady Thompson." Mr. O. V. Dray and Lady Thompson, have been engaged for some time past now, but the fact that Mr. O. V. Dray has just taken over Dhobi Corporal no doubt hastened the marriage. The bride was dressed in a magnificent dress of Greze-de-Bach, trimmed with Acahi-de-Topps., and in the blaze of Electric light and Chinese lanterns looked very alluring.

The Very, Very Rev. James Annon conducted the ceremony, there being only one hitch. The Bridegroom unfortunately lost the bride's ring as he was about to slip it on her finger, but it was, however soon found.

The next item should have been a song by Miss A. T. Cart but the Battalion Orderly Sergeant popped his head in the door and said it was a quarter to nine. As a matter of fact we hadn't said it was'nt so there was really no need for him to interfere, but, well you know what those Sergeant blokes are.

The 2nd Battalion—*continued.*

THINGS WE WANT TO KNOW.

Who was the Sergeant that told a squad who were not marking time properly, that he would make them mark time all the way back to barracks?

IN BRIEF.

Welcome to Capt. Hayman, one of the best all round athletes in the Battalion.

And to Mr. G. H. Stamforth on his return from England, and C.S.M. Sayer on being posted to us from E. Company.

The following represents the Coy. in the football match against the K.S.L.I. :—

L/c Hubbard, Pte. Martin, A/Sgt. Russell, Pte. Scally, L/c Searle, Cpls. Clark, Bowman, Bones, Reid, L/c Rowe and Bd. Barrett.

Congratulations to our running team, who, in spite of having no opportunity to train after their sea voyage were successful in their run against the K.S.L.I. in a stiff course of over 4 miles.

Here is the order of finishing :—

3rd, L/c Harlow ; 5th, L/c Hodges D.C.M. ; 6th, Pte. Marsh ; 7th. Pte. Smith, W. H. ; 8th, L/c Kimber ; 10th, Sgt. Ongley, D.C.M. ; 11th, Pte. Ringe ; 12th, Pte. Smith, J. ; 15th, Pte. Thompson ; 19th, Pte. Cogger ; 23rd, Sgt. Shoobridge ; 24th, Pte. Card ; 26th, Pte. Parker ; 29th, Pte. Roper ; 30th Mr. Hamil-Stewart.

B COMPANY.

We apologize for missing December news. This being now out of date, we shall only record our thanks to Sgt. Joy, Ptes. Tanton, Soloman, Matthews, and Shrubb for their assistance in enabling us to win the 2nd prize for our Christmas decorations, and our appreciation of the good time we all had not forgetting the draught beer obtained for us by the P.R.I., the first tasted during our stay in Mespot.

On January 6th our three year men left us for home. We were sorry to lose so many good soldiers and old friends, but all wish them the best of luck on donning "civvies" once more, and hope they will all keep in touch with the Regiment by purchasing "The Dragon."

The following are the names of those who left us :—Cpl. Cloke, L/Cpls. Dawe and Linkens. Ptes. Adams, Ansell, Chamberlain, Coulson, Day, Eggleton, Gibbins, Gilchrist, Hawkes, Knight, Moulding, Pearce, Pope, Selling, Spelling, Sharp, Shrubb, Soloman, Terrill, Walters and Watts.

We all heartily welcome Major Norman on taking over command.

C.S.M. Guerin left us for employment in Battalion Orderly Room, and we now have C.S.M. Upson in his place.

Our heartiest congratulations go to the R.S.M. and Sgt. Ambrose on obtaining their 1st Class certificate. The R.S.M. had a splendid result, obtaining 246 points in the first group and 250 in the second.

A.F.R.

D COMPANY.

Having recently arrived at a new station—one incidentally which has a thoroughly bad name, and like the proverbial canine, sticks to it—the writer's natural inclinations is to write all about its attractions, distractions and any other actions. Fully conscious however, of other writer's powers, he desists. But he has to say just one or two words about the climate.

Before we came here we were told, among many other stories, that it never rained in Aden. We should now, for the benefit of readers, like to enlighten them on this. It does, and did so a few days back, flooding out 14 Platoon pretty successfully, besides causing much bad language in other quarters. But no, it did not really rain— it poured. The informant who told us rain was nah-poo here was right!

As will be found elsewhere in the Dragon, the battalion is split up ; we have struck the Crater and it might be said are well satisfied with our lot as compared with the Steamer Point wallahs. It is thought by many, that when the Crater was built—or was it coughed up by a volcano?—the person who built it, had shares in the Aden Motor-taxi Company, Steamer point being five miles away.

With regard to sport, we have so far, apart from the usual unimportant match, done very little. The hockey ground is passable—literally—but only just. The Soccer ground is quite good. We whacked the Steamer point detachment at the former game 3—1, but lost to the Aden Mohammedans 3—0. At football we have only played one match—we whacked the Jewish team by about 6—0.

At swimming a Company team beat a "C" Coy team, conspicuous among the swimmers were Ptes. Cork and Tunnadine. We hope to have some competitions going up here when the shark-proof bathing pool has been re-built.

We welcomed the Draft on arrival and among them have 'bagged' L/c Tutt, who has shown excellent form at hockey in the few games he has played. Sergt. Sidwill is our new goalie—and a rattling good one. His football prowes often comes to the fore when clearing from the goal mouth. C.Q.M.S. Ambrose too, from "B" Coy., is a newcomer to the Company, whom we also welcome.

In conclusion, we take the liberty of giving a word or two of advice to every man in the Company—or anyone, for that matter, who cares to take it. Aden can be a jolly fine station if one cares to make it so. And this is the way—always be doing something in one's spare time. There's plenty to do—football, cricket, hockey, swimming, fishing, motoring (!), walking, paddling (!), and other things. Mind occupation is three quarters of the way to keeping fit and prevents boredom ; the worst of all conditions a man can get into.

E COMPANY.

About 4 more days of splashing about in mud and slosh, and then we commence the long expected move to Aden, of which we have heard so many different descriptions. And no doubt after the first few weeks there we shall hear the old cry of "Roll on England," which is only natural, as, after all, there's no place like old Blighty."

We are not strictly truthful when we say that we have had nothing to keep us alive, as the Schoolroom has been commandeered for a meeting Place of the "Bads" (Buffs' Amateur Dramatic Society), and the name appears to suit the occasion for nearly all the company complains of "Bad" stomachs and "Bad" heads, when the "Bads" commence.

In fact we are nothing but "Bads," soon after tea, the thumping of a badly out of tune piano can be heard accompanied by some brave individual chasing a "Bull," or another singing, (or having a try,) that he "Knocked 'em down the Old Kent Road." Of course we all sympathize with the C.Q.M.S., whose office unlickily is next door, and forgive him for any uncomplimentary remarks that he may pass about the renowned "Bads."

As regards sport, we beat Amara Hospital at hockey 5—0, a game in which Lt. Lister was particularly conspicuous. Our goal scorers were Sgt. Dennis (4) and L/c Wood (1). We have also drawn with A in a match in which no goals were scored, and have been beaten by them, in a return match by 3—1.

At cricket, we had a great match against Amara Hospital. Batting first, we ran up a total of 157, thanks to Lt. Hoare and Pte. King who knocked up 61 and 58 respectively. Then Pte. King bowled to such effect that we had no less than seven of our opponents out cheaply. Then came the rub, when the S.M.O., Major Nearlor took control, completed his century, and secured victory for his side by the narrow margin of five runs.

THE PEN PUSHER.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Ellen.—At Canterbury, on 24/3/22, the wife of 6278840 Pte. A. Ellen, M.M.—a daughter, Esme Florence.

Hale.—At Canterbury on 12/3/22, the wife of 7814264 Pte. W. Hale—a son, Reginald Christopher.

Hitchcock—On Feb. 12th, at The Manor, Rinslip, to Edith Mary, wife of J. V. Hitchcock, a daughter.

Whiting—At Canterbury, on 7/4/22, the wife of 6280795 Pte. W. Whiting—a daughter, Isabel May.

MARRIAGES.

Beevor—Pennington.—On the 9th March, 1922, at Gwalior, by the Rev. H. Forman, Major Miles Beevor, the Buffs, son of the late Horace Miles Beevor, Esq., of St. Lawrence, Isle of Thanet, to Phyllis, daughter of Lieut.-Colonel and Mrs. Arthur Pennington.

Carter—Winter.—At Dover, Reginald Boyce Carter, son of the late Sgt. Major Carter, the Buffs, to Christina Annie, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Winter of Dover.

Edwards.—At Fermoy on 26th Jan., 1922, 6278285, Cpl. J. Edwards, 1st Battalion The Buffs.

Whitaker—Hulse. On April 20th, 1922, at St. Matthew's Church, Darley Abbey, Darley, Capt. Frank Whitaker, M.C., The Buffs, to Eva Gwendolyn Hulse.

There's Hair.

OH list to the plaint
Of a man with a taint
Of the poetic instinct within him.
Since I donned Army trews
Though I oft woo the muse
I find 'tis beyond me to win him.

The cause is quite plain
Of my seeking in vain
The rhymes which once came without trouble
My hair a profusion
Once grew in confusion
My head's now a knob growing stubble.

And this is the plaint
Of that man with a taint
I've the poetic instinct within me
Though he cuts more and more
"Get that hair cut!" they roar
What they want is the barber to skin me.

O.M.

The Zulu War.

(Being extracts from the diary of Brig.-Gen. A. J. Whitacre Allen, late The Buffs).

DURING the night of the 28th the Mounted Infantry, Mounted Volunteers and the remains of the Native Contingent arrived from Etyoe having been sent off to save rations. From the 27th for some time onwards we remained bivouached near the Tugela in the height of the rainy season, getting some shelter by day—Fort Tenedos—but lying out at night and needless to say we lost many valuable men through illness. The only duty of interest which fell to our two companies was the disarming of the remains of the two battalions of the Native contingent who had been given a considerable number of rifles and this was carried out successfully.

On 12th Feb. the G.O.C. of the New Column arrived with his staff. On 15th March our two companies were sent out about seven miles to hold St. Andrew's Mission Station with the Mounted Infantry as an Advance Post; we occupied the Chapel and Mission buildings being very glad to get under a good roof again. By now communication by heliograph had been established with Etyoe and on 16th we heard of the death of Major Williams of the regiment up there. On 28th March we returned to Fort Tenedos and found we were attached to the 99th Regiment forming part of the relief column. On 29th the column marched, the Naval Brigade, 91st Regiment and our two companies forming the advanced column of which we B and H companies were the actual Advanced Guard. After about 11½ miles we formed laager near the Inyoni river—our rations were much cut down, there being no coffee, sugar, salt, pepper, dried vegetables or lime juice as everything was required for the garrison of Etyoe who were said to be starving.

We heard here that Lt. Evelyn of the regiment had died and Lt. (afterwards Colonel) D. F. Lewis had been wounded at Etyoe. On the 30th March we laagered on the banks of the Amatahuki river which we forded next day, the stream as usual being waist deep. I forgot to mention that before the column started we were joined by General Sir C. Thesriger (afterwards Lord Chelmsford) C. in C. of the Forces in Natal and Zululand. On 1st April our two companies were changed from Advanced to Rearguard and only reached the laager near Ginginhlovo late that evening. On 2nd April we stood to arms at 3.30 p.m. and it was not till 6 a.m. that we got definite news from the Mounted Infantry of the advance of a powerful Zulu Impi.

Shortly after we had the curious experience of watching the Impi many thousands strong issue from the bush just out of rifle shot. It then split into two wings, or horns, which marched right round our laager till they met one another when they turned inwards and advanced towards us at the run firing as they came. Their arms were largely elephant guns of large calibre firing a bullet weighing 2 oz. and M.H. rifles, beside of course the usual throwing and stabbing assegais. Needless to say the Zulu ranks were so thinned by our fire during this advance that there was no overcrowding in them, but some men got up within throwing range of their assegais and actually removed some of our cooking pots from the camp kitchens.

This native attack lasted till 7.45 a.m. when the Zulus had had all they wanted and retired after losing very heavily. Our loss was Lieut. Johnson, 99th Regiment killed, Col. Northery 60th Rifles dangerously wounded (only lived two days), Surgeon Longfield, R. N., Lieut. Hinsman 57th Regiment all wounded. Other ranks four killed and 24 wounded. Our losses were so slight owing to our having dug quite a good shelter trench outside the wagon laager, to which the wagons acted as in parados. On 3rd April the relief of Etyoe by the 60th Rifles, 57th and 91st Regiments took place, our two companies being left in the laager much to our disgust. On 8th April we got back to the Tugela where we found the rest of the 2nd Battalion and were royally entertained by them. Lieut. Mason whom we had left behind sick had died.

We now remained near the Tugela till the 15th June, while a big column was being organised for a combined advance to Ulundi. We were employed in running convoys up to various parts which were constructed near the drifts or fords over the big rivers. On 14th June the columns marched under command of General Crealock and after various vicissitudes and skirmishes arrived near Port Durnford on the coast of the Indian Ocean where we were given to understand that owing to some one's blundering we had not been led to the right Ulundi but to a kraal of a similar name. Our camp was admirably selected for us being in a swamp with bush right up to it but we soon got that put to rights. This was the end of the campaign for us and on 30th July we started to march back to Natal. I have no record of what our casualties from climate and disease were during the 7½ months we were in Zululand but I know they were very heavy.

Harrisonisms.

BY H. B. BLACKBURN.

I OBSERVE you have lately been printing anecdotes of Colonel Harrison. Here is, I think a very characteristic one.

When we arrived at Dum Dum in 1889, we started organizing the regimental polo club. The Colonel took a great predjudice against polo and was always jumping on us.,

"You fellows pay no attention to your work and think of nothing but your b — y polo; but I'll put it down with the strong hand," was a favourite saying of his.

One day, in pursuance of this policy, he sent for the last joined subaltern (the late General Hasler) who was then at recruits drill and started telling him off. "You know you're not learning your drill—you think of nothing but your ——— polo and your ——— snipe shooting" and so forth.

Julian stood pefectly unperturbed till there came a pause in the C. O's oration, when he calmly took a drill book out of his pocket and handed it to the Colonel, saying

"Sir, I'll bet you a gold mohur you can't stump me with a question out of that book."

The Colonel's keen Yorkshire love of a bet was too much for him. He accepted the bet, lost it, and paid up.

From that day on his dislike of polo grew less and, in about a month's time, he gave Julian a present of a polo pony.

Royal Defence Corps Medals.

A number of Medals for men who were discharged from the Royal Defence Corps still remain to be issued, and applications by those who have not received their Medals should be addressed to the Officer i/c, London Infantry Records, Gloucester Gate Building, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1. Only those who served overseas and were actually discharged from the Royal Defence Corps should apply.

Soldiers of the Royal Defence Corps who served in another Corps prior to discharge should apply to the Officer in Charge of Records of the Corps from which they were finally discharged.

Can You Write?

We are always pleased to consider articles, humorous sketches, and drawings. No article should exceed 600 words and, if you love us dearly as we hope you do, do please write on one side of the paper only, and leave a good space between every line.

Colonels of the Buffs.

No. 9. The Duke of Argyll, *Colonel of the Buffs*, 1707—1711.

THE Duke of Argyll was born in October 1678 and died in 1743. His first adventure was on June 30th, 1685 on which day his grandfather was beheaded and at almost the same moment, so it was said, the little boy fell from a third-floor window without hurting himself. At the age of sixteen he was colonel of a regiment of foot in the Dutch service. He distinguished himself at the battle of Ramillies and the sieges of Ostend and Ghent, was promoted major-general, and the next year, 1707, obtained the colonelcy of the Third Foot. He commanded twenty battalions of infantry at Oudenarde in 1708 and assisted at the sieges of Lisle and Ghent; for these services he was promoted lieutenant-general and in this capacity commanded at the siege of Tournay and later at Malplaquet where he rode at the head of the Buffs. In 1710 he was made a knight of the Garter, but chiefly for his attack on the Duke of Marlborough which commended itself to the Tories; and in 1711 he disposed of the colonelcy of the Buffs on being appointed commander-in-chief of the British forces in Spain.

Argyll was second only to Marlborough as a soldier, but it is not clear whether it was professional jealously or political differences which inspired his violent dislike of Marlborough; it is certain that at one time they were good friends for Marlborough gave him at different times an old-fashioned piano (spinet?) and a wooden surfaced billiard-table, both of which are in the possession of the present Duke of Argyll. It is equally certain that he attacked Marlborough most vehemently in the House of Lords in 1712, criticizing, among other things, his handling of his army at Malplaquet and the losses then incurred..." another or two such victories would ruin us." Two years before, in a letter to his wife, Marlborough had said:—" I do, with all my heart, wish I had not recommended the Duke of Argyll, but that can't now be helped; nothing is good but taking measures not to be in the power of ungrateful people." Of one thing, at any rate, we may be sure; the Duke of Argyll possessed in a high degree the two qualities which go to make a good soldier—military knowledge and great personal bravery.

During the Colonelcy of the Duke of Argyll the regiment was first "permitted to display a *Dragon* on its colours, as a regimental badge, as a reward for its gallant conduct on all occasions. The Dragon, being one of the supporters to the royal arms in the time of Queen Elizabeth, also indicated the origin of the corps in Her Majesty's reign." So runs the account in Cannon's History, which was published in 1839 at the King's command and under the direction of the Adjutant-General; and there seems very little ground for accepting any other theory. It would appear likely that the motto at present in use was adopted at the same time and may well have been framed to recall the fact that, some time previously, green had been the distinctive colour of the colours carried by the regiment, before they were superseded by the "Sun in Splendour" on a black ground during Oglethorpe's colonelcy. This harking back, so to speak, to the old colour, may well explain why the dragon is tinctured green rather than gold. The following year, 1708, soon after the death of Prince George of Denmark, on October 28th, the regiment became definitely known as the Buffs. Sometimes they were called the Old Buffs, to distinguish them from the 31st regiment (East Surrey) which was raised in 1702 and, wearing also buff waistcoats, breeches, and stockings, was for many years styled the Young Buffs; often they were known by the colonel's name; but, more usually, they have remained, from that time onwards the Buffs.

F.W.T.

AT SHORNCLIFFE.

Presentation of Medals, 1st Battn. The Buffs, on Princess Mary's Wedding Day, February 28th, 1922, Risborough Barracks, Shorncliffe.

Just what we want.

IT is with the greatest pleasure that we give publication to the following letter which has reached us. It is a fine example of the very thing we want, and we are hoping that many of our other readers amongst the Old Brigade will respond in the same way, remembering the pleasure it gives to all of us to hear of our old friends.

Dear Editor,

I have just experienced a decidedly pleasant shock. I was walking down one of the main streets of this town, where I have lived for the last 12 years or so, when I espied a young soldier wearing the "flying duck." I was after him as quick as a flash of lightning going through a tub of margarine; and, although I did not know him, we soon got interested in each other, with the result that he invited me to his parent's home, where after a lovely chat about old "Buffs," he gave me an April copy of the good old publication *The Dragon*, which I have simply devoured.

I joined the 2nd in 1903 at Woolwich, and then proceeded to Dover via Canterbury. My number was 7681 B Company, and on looking through the *Dragon*, I find the name of Major Marriott. Now if that is the gentleman I mean, he was my captain, and perhaps he will remember the "rook pie," that was served up to him when we were at Bulford, previous to departing to South Africa, by the French chef who was employed at the mess at that time (1904–5) or thereabouts. I remember forgetting to put in the baking powder or something in the pie-crust, with the result that the "pie" was the colour and weight of a large slab of slate.

Another officer we had was Lieut. Jackson, and could you tell me what befell him when he went down that trench at "Vermelles" (Battle of Loos), I heard say that he got his foot blown off, but I never heard any more.

Col. Worthington I saw go down a true "Buff" to the last, along with the colonel of the Middlesex, who were in our brigade.

I may say, before I write further, that my name is Seguss (Gussie) and no doubt some of the old hands will remember me a "storer." I have got photographs hanging on my kitchen walls of B Company football team of 1904 in which are, Drummer Sparks, Cpl. (Pick) Griffiths, who I think kept goal for Folkestone in the Kent League at that time, Ptes. Uckham, Ginger Brewster, Holman, Taylor, Cousins, (who I think was killed "Ypres,") Dusty Ruler, (who used to be storeman) myself, and two others I forget (oh Lce.-Cpl. Marlow is another one), Colour Sgt. "Darkey Reval," and our trainer a chap called "De Willis," an old Indian "wallah." Perhaps this is the man "Willis" whom Colonel Moody is enquiring about on page 111 of this issue.

Perhaps it may interest you to know that the name of one "Buff" is going on the "Luton Town Memorial," which will be unveiled this August or September, I refer to Pte. William James Johns 14384, 1st Batt. The Buffs. I found this while checking the lists the other day.

Another group photograph on my wall is B Company '04 or '05. With Captain Marriott nursing a dog, Lieut. Jackson, and another officer whose name I cannot recall, would it be Captain Bayard? Also Sgt. Port, Catchpole, (I believe) but to tell you the truth, I cannot remember the names of the others, (I have been blown up twice and gassed once), and I rather think my memory is impaired a little bit.

While I was in the 1st a little while, my officers, or one of them rather was Lieut. Guy Lee. By the way after I got a "packet" outside Kut, at the Battle of Dujailah, March 8th, 1916, having been transferred to the 1/5 Buffs and was sent to Mhow hospital. There, I heard was a Major Guy Lee there in command of the "bombing school," but as I was hobbling on two sticks, I couldn't get down to see him. I often wonder if that was him.

I have got picture postcards of the presentation of New colours at Finsbury about 17 or 18 years ago, would they be any good to you for publication? Well, I must now ring off, but please let me know full particulars about the forthcoming issue of "War History of the Buffs, as I want one. Best regards to "old Buffs," and accept my kindest wishes for yourself.

I remain,
Yours etc.,
F. SEGUSS,
7681 2nd Battalion.
7681 1st Battalion.
3013 1/5 Battalion.

12 Wimbourne Road,
Luton,
Beds.

Training Soldiers by the Film.

WITHIN the last few months the progressive ideas of military training of which one heard a great deal in the early days of the peace, have again asserted themselves, and it is now officially recognized what very great an assistance the cinematograph may be in the training of the soldier. For years past it has been urged that the best instructor for the recruit is not the man who keeps on telling his squad what to do, but who can and does himself demonstrate how the movement or excercise should be done, for we are probably all agreed that we can learn more quickly by eye than by ear; and by employing the cinematograph to demonstrate how any military operation should or should not be done, much fatigue, time, wear and tear, and expense can be saved equally to instructor and instructed. It is obvious that any portion of a training grant laid out in instruction thus imparted is money very well and usefully expended.

A section of operators has been installed for some months past at Aldershot, and films depicting phases of military training have been produced under the charge of Captain J. M. Rodd, of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps. Pictures have been taken at Chatham, Hythe, Netheravon, Christchurch, Seaford, and Aldershot by the British and Colonial Cinematograph Company, Limited, to which a contract for this very special work was given in December last. Camera men are sent out for two or three days at a time; they take the different scenes after careful rehearsal, and these are then developed, cut, joined, and edited at Aldershot, where appropriate titles for them are devised. At the camp there is a film laboratory with an expert staff, who do credit to the careful training they have undergone.

By the use of these Army films a squad or company need no longer be taken out in the country in all weathers to repeat the same old operation *ad nauseam*. The young soldier can now be shown in his own regimental or battery theatre or barrack room not only the right but the wrong way to perform some special "job" of training, for some of these films have been specially taken to show the delay, danger, and loss that may be incurred when the work is carried out without the necessary preliminary preparation and forethought. Especially useful is the employment of instruction by film in such operations as bridging or demolition, the actual repitition of which in the field would be costly and wearisome. Films have been prepared showing bridging, demolition, and the arrangement of working parties at Chatham; a platoon in attack, the use of Hotchkiss and Lewis guns, and demonstrations of machine guns operating with an advance guard at Hythe; the work of the cavalry brigade at Aldershot, and many other operations.

The Ladies.

TWO "Bonny Buff Babies" this month. There they are, in the centre of our page; and a bonnier couple would be hard to find.

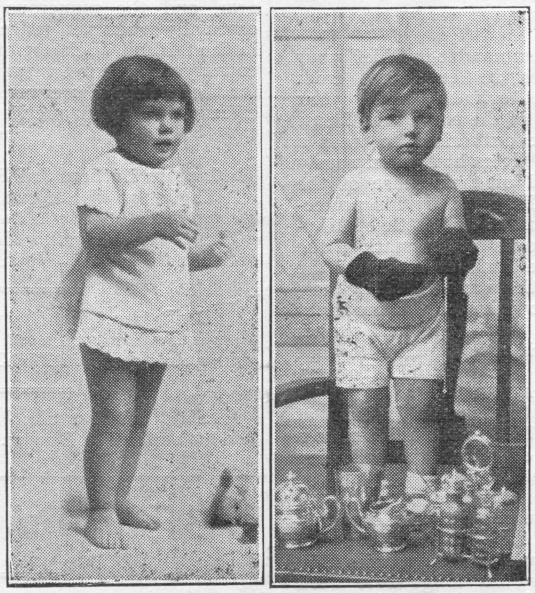
Bubbles Dare is on the left, the winner of a 1st prize at the Canterbury Garrison Baby Show of this year. Born on December 24th, 1919, Doris Ethel, as those are her real names, scaled 27lbs. at 2 years. She is of course, the little daughter of Regimental Sgt. Major and Mrs. Dare.

On the right, is William John Austen, the son and heir of C.Q.M.S. F. and Mrs. F. Austen, late of the 2nd Battalion and now posted to the Depot. Born at Dalhousie, India, on the 23rd April, 1920, this photograph of William John was taken on arrival in England at the age of 19 months; and one only has to look at him to know the reason why Dempsey on his visit to this country is chary of entering the ring!

Hard Luck.

It is indeed hard luck on the Married families of the 1st Battalion, that the fate of that Battalion should be to be sent to a station forbidden to wives and children. But so it is in the Army of to-day, and we can only hope, that events may so happen, that the Married families may be allotted to join their husbands later in Constantinople, which, by the way, is an excellent station from a health point of view; or that the Battalion may soon proceed elsewhere where these tiresome restrictions do not apply.

I hear that some of the officers' wives intend going out at any rate, and, should this be the case, I hope they will let us have their impressions of the place. And the same applies to the wives in Aden, from whom I had rather hoped to hear last mail.



A MATCH!

OUR COMPETITIONS.

Having had no letters, either for or against, from my readers on the subject of competitions, I can only suppose these are not really wanted. This rather disappoints me, as I hoped these might have become a regular feature. But perhaps some of our readers might still like to express their views upon this.

THE BENEVOLENT FUND.

The Benevolent Fund is indebted to Miss Ramsay of Bridge for very kindly purchasing lock, stock, and barrel all the articles left in my hands from our competitions. This being so, it has given me great pleasure to hand over to the Benevolent Fund a cheque for £5 9s. 0d., the total revenue received from our competitions, on account of donations and sales, and many thanks also, to Mrs. McDermott for remitting a portion of her prize for the benefit of the Fund.

So, after all, our competitions were worth it.

The Editor *The Dragon*, **offers a prize of 10/6 for the best article received by him by the 14th inst., entitled "How to improve the Ladies' Page."**

Shopping.

Some are born shoppers
Some achieve shopping
And some have shopping thrust upon them.

THE true shopper is born, not made— She, (for our true shopper must be a woman; who ever heard of a man shopping for pleasure) has a wonderful flair, she knows, exactly, to which department store she must hie for each single thing she requires. She would scorn just for convenience sake to make all her purchases under one roof—what matters it if "Messrs. Frills and Furbelows" whose fame for frocks is world wide are one end of the town, and Mme. Dessous for lingerie is right in the other direction. She must map out her plan of campaign accordingly. She knows the exact value of things, and does not grudge a fair price for good value, even though her soul now and again hankers after a bargain.

She, who achieves shopping, has perhaps been fortunate enough to sit at the feet or to speak less figuratively followed in the footsteps our born shopper, been her disciple, gone with her and learned wisdon from her ways. For simplicity sake we might put the above described shoppers into two classes A and B; and she who has shopping thrust upon her would become class C, a most unenviable class.

She has friends abroad in the colonies, or living in the wilds of the country miles from shops. Their only hope lies in the friend of class C. She receives long lists of their requisites, and she perforce has shopping thrust upon her.

One wonders which of our shoppers gets the most pleasure out of shopping, the born-shopper, the one who has achieved shopping, or the one who has shopping thrust upon her. It is difficult to say. But the shopper who gets real and unalloyed pleasure out of shopping is she, who flattens her nose against every alluring shop-window pane, who returns home at the end of the day, worn-out, hot but happy, her purse as full as when she started out on her shopping Expedition, but her bag bulging with patterns.

(with acknowledgements to the Cologne Post.)

J. HUNT & SONS

Drapers, Men's Hosiers
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LARGE STOCKS OF
RELIABLE & HIGH CLASS GOODS
AT POPULAR PRICES

1—6 Mercery Lane, CANTERBURY

Albuhera, 16th May, 1811.

IT will be remembered that, last year, in Celebration of the Anniversary of the Battle of Albuera, we gave an account of the Battle, and told the full story of the gallantry of Lt. Latham when defending the King's Colour. And we also related how his brother officers subscribed one hundred guineas for the purchase of a medal, on which the preservation of the Colour by Lt. Latham was represented in high relief, with the motto —" I will surrender it only with my life."

We now give the story of how permission was obtained for Lt. Latham to be allowed to wear this medal, and of its final presentation.

Applicatlon was made to His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief by General Leigh, Colonel of the 3rd Regiment of Foot or The Buffs for the royal authority for Lieut. Latham to receive and wear the medal, and the Duke of York's approval was communicated in the following letter dated Horse Guards 4th January, 1813.

Sir,

I have laid before the Commander-in-Chief your letter of yesterday's date with its enclosures from Lieut.-Colonel Stewart of the Regiment, under your command, submitting the name of the corps that Lieut. Latham of that Regt. may be authorised to wear a gold medal which his brother Officers had unanimously voted to him as a testimonial of their sense of the distinguished conduct he had displayed by his protection of the colour of the Regiment at the Battle of Albuhera. H.R.H. very much approves of this mark of the sense which the Officers of The Buffs entertain of the merit and gallantry of Lieut. Latham and H.R. Highness is also impressed with a high opinion of the propriety of feeling which has induced them to solicit proper authority for the grant of such a distinction to that Officer. I have etc. Signed H. Torrens.

THE PRESENTATION.

The Medal was presented to Captain Latham at Reading, on the 12th August, 1813, with a letter from Lt. Col. Stewart of the Buffs, of which the following is a copy :—

Sir,

In my absence, which I regret on this occasion, Major Morris in command of the 2nd Battalion will present to you the gold medal which accompanies this, and which you already know has long since been cordially voted you by the unanimous vote of the whole body of your brother Officers, as a lasting testimonial of the high sense they entertain of your distinguished conduct in the battle of Albuhera.

On this occasion I feel it but common justice to you, Sir, to state a fact, but little known in general, although well known to me as your Commanding Officer at the time which attaches no common share of merit to the part you acted on that memorable day. It not only fell to your lot to take charge of one of the colours of your Regiment at the moment when the Ensign, and most of the Sergeants who previously carried and protected it had fallen in its defence, but this charge devolved on you at the instant when the Regiment suddenly sent forward considerably in advance of the rest of the British Troops in support of some Spaniards, had just closed with the bayonet on the massy columns of the French Infantry in front, and while so engaged, and at so critical a moment was surrounded and attacked in the rear by the enemies numerous cavalry and lancers and thus completely separated from the rest of the Army.

Yes, Sir, it was in this situation so peculiarly critical that you showed that degree of firmness and presence of mind, which saved the colour you took in charge, and has not only obtained you the unanimous applause and approbation of your brother Officers, but has justly recommended you to the notice and protection of the illustrious Princes of your country, who never fail to encourage and reward merit when known to them, with so impartial and liberal a hand that they raise the renown of the British Army to a degree of brilliance and splendour which eclipses the brightest splendour of our history, and have excited such a spirit of enthusiasm and confidence among all ranks of troops as cannot fail to make the tyrant of the continent and his slaves tremble to encounter them.

This lasting memorial of your merits which will be presented to you with this letter in the name of your troops, will prove to you in a high degree acceptable, when it is told you that you are permitted to wear it by the special sanction and approbation of our illustrious Commander-in-Chief, who has been graciously pleased to accompany this permission with those distinguished rewards which his notice, and the Royal munificence already conferred on you, and which must be consoling to you in the highest degree possible for the loss of an arm, and the numerous wounds you have received, especially when you reflect that you have thus suffered in the faithful discharge of your duty to your King and country at a period when they are gloriously struggling for the liberty of the world with sentiments of the high esteem which your merits deserve, I have etc.

Signed. William Stewart,
Lieut.-Colonel The Buffs.

To Captain Latham 3rd Foot.

[*Copies of the March Dragon*, 1921, *containing an account of the Battle of Albuhera, and a full page illustration of Lt. Latham defending the Colours, can be had on application to the Editor. Price* 8*d. (post free)*.

Don't forget that if you have anything to sell, or if there is anything you want to buy, we will gladly publish your requirements in The Dragon free of all charge.

Short articles, sketches, and drawings are always acceptable for The Dragon.

THE DRAGON CLUB

THE ANNUAL DINNER

of

THE DRAGON CLUB

will take place on

Wednesday, 14th June, 1922

at the

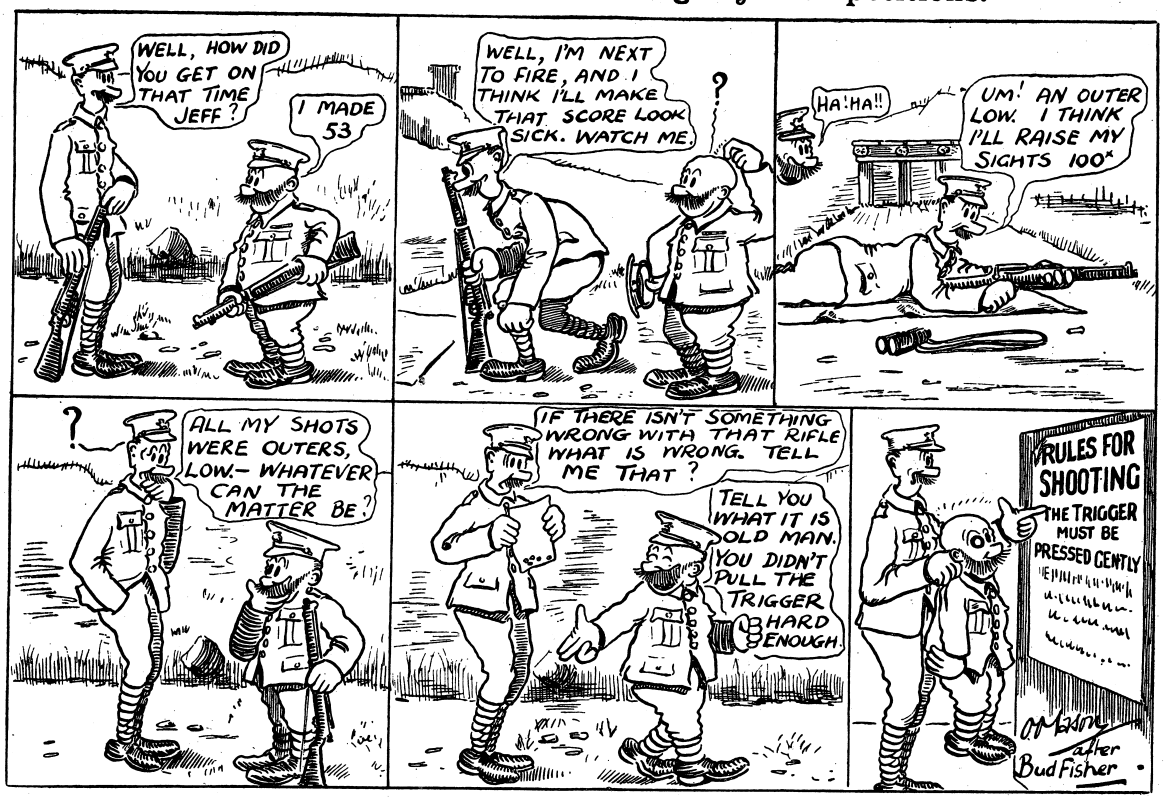
TROCADERO RESTAURANT

(Balmoral Room)

At 7.45 p.m., for 8 p.m.

Note.—*Those intending to be present are asked kindly to notify their names in advance to Major Guy Lee, D.S.O., M.C., Depot, The Buffs, Canterbury.*

Mutt and Jeff at the Fortnightly Competitions.



Enquiry Bureau.

The Crippen Draft.

A CORRESPONDENT writes as follows:—"Seeing mention of the "Crippen Draft" in your pages, can you enlighten me as to how it came about that this draft came to be known by this name?"

This query was submitted to Major Tomlinson who has very kindly sent me the following reply:—

In answer to your query, I was in command of this draft which left Aldershot in September 1910 to join the 2nd Battalion which was then at Hong-Kong under orders for Singapore. The trial of Dr. Crippen was, I think, just finished, though whether his number was actually up I cannot remember. At any rate we were called the Crippen draft from the very beginning; in fact, I, myself, impersonated this gentleman at a dance given on board the Rohilla on the way out.

The draft was nearly 200 strong and was kept at Singapore (attached to the 3rd Middlesex) to await the arrival of the 2nd Battalion at the end of November, if I remember aright. Consequently we existed as a draft for nearly three months—much longer than is usually the case; and, as we were a very happy family, many lasting friendships were formed and that, perhaps, is why the name crops up so frequently. Certainly I count every survivor of it as my friend to-day. A finer lot of men I never saw and I never had a better lot to deal with.

My only sergeant was Walsh, and my corporals were Goddard, Watson and Martin (now Regtimental-Sergt.-Major of the 1st Battalion) who were all young soldiers—in fact the only old soldier (in point of service!) was Pte. Gunston, who is occasionally referred to in your columns.

It may be of interest to note—and I trust, at this length of time, it may cause no heart-burnings—that Colonel Geddes told me I might select two: (it was obvious that I could not have the whole draft in my company), to come to G Company when I succeeded Captain Baird, and I chose Ptes. Knight (old fat Knight I wonder what has happened to him) and H. Weller, who afterwards was my servant in France."

Now, I think I am right in believing that almost all drafts gain nick-names of some kind, and I am hoping that some of my readers, almost all of whom must have been with a draft at one time in their careers, will send in reminiscences similar to that of Major Tomlinson, or at any rate let me know the nickname of their own particular draft.

Regimental Nicknames.

And here is another query which has reached me:—"In a list of Regimental Nicknames published in the Journal of the Society of Army Historical Research I find the Buffs associated with the following:—BUFF HOWARDS, THE NUT-CRACKERS, OLD BUFFS, RESURRECTIONISTS.

Can you tell us how these names were earned and when?

Now I am sorry to say that this is just the very thing I cannot do, and, if any reader can help me out of this difficulty, I hope he will not hesitate to do so.

Thanks very much.

WE are indebted to the following for very kindly having brought their subscriptions to the *Dragon* for this year up to the higher rate as suggested by a correspondent in our Christmas number.

Lt.-Colonel W. A. Eaton, O.B.E., Major C. D. K. Greenway, Captains C. L. Connellan, A. E. Loyd Hardcastle, C. E. A. Terry, Lieuts. P. R. H. Fox, W. Brandford Griffith, Mrs. H. J. Ogilvy Millar and Mrs. Sankey.

The Tiger.

A STORY OF EAST AFRICA.

BY MAJ. JOHN CROOKENDEN, D.S.O.

A WOMAN had been killed on the Ossing road. The people coming from the farms had found her—horribly torn about the throat. Next day a goat was killed in the nieghbouring village; and now Jatto had been carried off by a tiger and his remains had been found in the bush.

Obi, Jatto's brother, then determined to take steps. Having buried the corpse decently in the bush, and sprinkled chicken's blood and feathers over the place according to the demands of decency, he hurried over to Assanya, who had quite a big mud house at the end of the village. He entered the house which seemed deserted, as all Assanya's wives were out in the farms, and repressed an involuntary shudder at the ghastly evidences of ju ju, which lay before him.

The roof, black with smoke, was festooned with ropes of grass; hideous figures of clay and grease, decorated with cowrie shells, leered from all corners; drums and masks were in the centre in a heap on the floor; and round the walls were rows of human shin bones.

A querulous croak from one corner quickly told Obi he was not alone, and, calling for Assanya, a little old man made his way to the middle of the house. His legs were like sticks and covered with numerous iron bracelets; his skin, loose and shrivelled, hung upon him like a shirt several sizes too large; he looked both old and wicked, and he carried a big ebony stick; his arms were covered with brass rings; and in his hand was a fly switch made from the tail of a horse.

"You have heard of the tiger?" questioned Obi.

"Yes" replied the other, "what about it?"

"Well" replied Obi, "I want you to find out who is responsible, who is the man in whose belly the tiger shelters—and here are fifteen shillings for you."

For a long time Assanya argued about the price.

"Have I not practised this ju ju for years," said he, "and have I ever been wrong?"

However times were bad that year, food was scarce and therefore expensive, and so he finally agreed.

Then came the second part of the story. Assanya, after declaring he was about to discover the hider of the tiger, began to walk about carrying various mystic emblems and his latest shin bone. Curiously enough, at this stage, he was accustomed to receive money from those around him, but seeing the people's patience growing thin, since another girl had been eaten, he suddenly approached Tabi in the main street and accused him of concealing the Tiger, and sternly command him to go and hang himself, not as Europeans do lightly and without meaning, but in sober earnest.

Now it was usual for the relatives of one so doomed to see that Assanya's orders were fulfilled, but Tabi, who had only just married a young girl, and whose life was just now all that was beautiful, begged to be spared. However the only concession he got, and for which he had to pay five shillings was half an hour to put his affairs in order, and to go and tell his young wife.

An hour after one of Tabi's relatives came to say that Tabi was hanging dead in the bush. Assanya, who shewed considerable cunning in not actually having anything to do with the affair, then sent his son Timbo to investigate Tabi's interior. Timbo set off with a sharp hatchet, and soon returned with two little bits of "innards" and two shin bones which he bore in triumph to Assanya. The latter was well pleased and went to show then to Taby's relatives.

"See," he cried, "not only one tiger but two! What did I tell you?"

Tabi's relatives, however, were rather sore, and turned on him and denied they were tigers at all, and, in spite of Assanya's taunt about people reaching their age and not knowing a tiger when they saw one, eventually surrounded him, and threatened to make an end of him once and for all.

But here the chief of the town stepped in. "Take him to the white man" he said. And so he was brought in.

In the Court he was simplicity itself. "Of course" said he, "I've done this for years—ever since a boy. These other people are wrong; they were tigers that were cut out. I have seen the same hundreds of times. I did not kill Tabi; I merely pointed him out, as I have done others often and often before—and now they are trying to make out I was wrong."

But he pleaded in vain. Seven years was the sentence, and I think was lucky.

* * * *

But what a case! Whoever heard of a man taking another at his word when told to go and hang himself! And with what would he have been charged in an English Court of Law?

I may say the tiger gave plenty of further evidence that he had not been destroyed as, less than a week after, a man was brought in with his face and mouth completely torn off, no doubt by a leopard—there being no tigers, properly speaking, in the country at all.

The Fairy Ring.

Chapter VII.

"NOW is my chance" said Hugh in great exultation "Can you put me on to the Head of the Police?"

"Of course," replied Maureen, seizing the telephone.

In a few minutes Hugh had explained the situation to the Police, who were even now preparing to lay a trap at Bunter's flat.

Hugh and Maureen had nothing now to do but to await events.

About ten minutes later a ring was heard at the front door followed by Bunter's well-known cough. The door opened and the voice of the Police Detective was heard to say "I arrest you Mr. Bunter as the Head of....." His speech was cut off by what must have been a shot aimed by Bunter. Two more shots rang out and Hugh rushed downstairs. Arrived there he saw the Police Detective lying prone on the floor and across his body the bleeding figure of Bunter. Grouped round him were the remainder of the policemen. Hugh examined Bunter's body and found he had been shot through the throat and heart and was quite dead. "Thank God for that" said Hugh.

After the police investigations and the post mortem, the nine days wonder was over and caused no more excitement in New York. A very complete history of the Fairy Ring Organisation appeared in one of the leading papers in which Hugh's adventures played a prominent part. Three month's later Hugh was married quietly to Maureen and they both returned to England. Hugh was formally arrested as a deserter but was able to prove his movements during the last few months and his trial was dispensed with. Later he bought himself out of the Army and is now living quietly in Kent with his wife, Maureen.

Hugh has never yet been able to find out why the organisation, in which Bunter took so leading a part, adopted the name "The Fairy Ring." I fancy that the secret is buried with Bunter and that it will never be known. Anyhow we all have to thank Hugh for the great part he took in breaking up so dangerous a gang of criminals.

(The End.)

We have still some complete sets of the 1921 *Dragons for disposal. If you would like one of these, send a line to the Editor.*

If you have any addresses of Old Buffs by you, we should like to have them.

Pick of The Basket.

THE 2/5TH BUFFS.

Dear Sir,

In your March issue, under the heading " Personalia " is a paragraph concerning 2/5th The Buffs, wherein it is stated that Lord Goschen raised the Battalion. I feel that I must point out to you that your information in this respect is not strictly accurate.

Colonel C. Stanley Williams, V.D., was the first Commanding Officer of 2/5th The Buffs and, as such, I take it, is consequently entitled to be given the credit of having raised it. The task that confronted him when he took over the details of 1/5th Battalion was no light one, but through all its up and downs he stood by the Battalion working always in its best interests and for the well-being of all those who served under him.

Lord Goschen, who was extremely enthusiastic in the matter of recruiting, organised a detachment of the Battalion which he led on a recruiting march through the Weald of Kent; was influential in getting the Bank Clerks to enlist, and worked hard to bring 2/5th Buffs up to strength. It is doubtless due to the great assistance he gave in the matter of recruiting that has caused the raising of the Battallon to be associated with his name.

Lord Goschen succeeded Colonel Stanley Williams as Commanding Officer in the late summer or Autumn of 1915.

I was Colonel Stanley Williams' Acting Adjutant for five or six months and therefore feel it my duty to place these facts before you.

I remain,
Yours faithfully,
CHAS. P. KINGSLAND,
Major.

Headcorn, Kent.

[*We are very glad to be able to publish the above as a means of rectifying the omission in our original paragraph which is much regretted. Ed.*]

THE LATE MR. HESELDENE.

Dear Sir,

Many of your readers will be sorry to hear of the death of an old " Buff," Mr. Heseldene (Shanks) of Hastings, who passed away last November. Shanks was noted for his strange stories of adventures, which were supposed to have occurred while he was serving with " The Buffs " in India. His leading yarn was, that at one time he was crack shot of battalion, and always had to accompany the " Heads " of the Battalion, when they went out on shooting parties. Well to tell how the news of his fame spread, below is the conversation supposed to have been heard one day when Shanks was putting his deadly aim on a parrot.

Is that you " Shanks ? "
" Yes ! Shanks of The Buffs."
" All right old chap don't shoot, I surrender."

Signed
A BUFF.

ALAS ! NOT YET.

Dear Sir,

Herewith a photograph of my *cat*, " Alec." I am sending with hopes it will suit for publication in *Dragon*. Everybody seems to be sending in their family " Bonnie Babies." This is ours. " Alec, Persian Cat," well-known for his tricks, mostly unknown for a cat to perform, a cockney by birth, but I believe one of the finest in Liverpool in size and for tricks.

Photo " Alec, swanking in his Summer Straw Hat."

Yours faithfully,
EDGAR G. CLIFTON,

Liverpool.

[*We thank our correspondent for his letter and excellent photo of " Alec," but, alas ! until our circulation reaches the* 5,000 *mark, our Regimental Pet page can not come yet.*]

THE 4TH BUFFS TIE.

Dear Sir,

I note in the correspondence in the current issue of your paper, a suggestion that the mysterious tie might have been a creation of the 2/4th Battalion. In case this should not meet the eye of anyone formerly connected with Battalion Flags. of this late Battalion, I hasten to refute this dreadful suggestion.

Perhaps some individual who belonged to the Battalion designed a special tie for his own use when first resuming mufti, in order to celebrate the occasion. There certainly *is* a tie, of the colours mentioned, being offered in shops as " 4th Buffs tie." A friend of mine went to a shop in Piccadilly to buy a Buffs tie, and was offered one of these. He rejected it with scorn, and the shopman said " Oh ! I am sorry, Sir, that is the *4th Battalion tie*."

Yours faithfully,
A. HOWARD REED,
Capt.,
Late 2/4 Buffs.

Westgate-on-Sea.

CAN YOU HELP ?

Dear Sir,

Would you be so kind as to inform me whether anything is known as to the fate of Private G. Scotchbrook, D Company, 2nd Battalion The Buffs (85 Bde. 28 Der. B.E.F.) who was reported missing on 4th May, 1915. I understand he was last seen at Zonnebeke.

If Pte. Scotchbrook is known to have been killed is the location of his grave known ?

Yours etc.,
I. T. REYNOLDS (Capt.),

The Small Arms School, Hythe, Kent.

AN APPEAL FOR NEWS.

Dear Sir,

As a means of increasing the interest of the T.X. man and Reservist in the paper, I should like to suggest that everything possible be done to get men to write about themselves, their old soldier friends and their doings to the *Dragon*. They should quote their old Regimental number and Company as a name only often conveys so little.

Personally I like hearing about men when they leave the Regiment and am sorry to say that I hardly know what any of the two or three hundred who have passed through the Battalion during the last two years are now doing.

Yours etc.,
G. N. HOWE, Capt.

Aden.

ROPING IN ANOTHER.

Sir,

Enclosed please find year's subscription to *Dragon*. In response to suggestion of adding another subscriber would you please send paper to Capt. G. J. Neame (if not already subscribing), Queen Anne's Lodge, Westmoreland Road, Bromley.

Will you please thank Mr. Coveney for his thoughtfulness in asking you to send me the *Dragon*, and I trust he is well ?

Best wishes to you for continued success.

Yours etc.,
L. E. WOOD.

Newark-on-Trent, Notts.

THE ANNUAL DINNER.

Dear Sir,

I would like, on behalf of all old Buffs in London to thank all concerned for arranging that the next Regimental Dinner shall take place in London on Saturday, and I hope it may be a bumper. I have circulated the news to all I have come across, and have asked them to do the same. May we get a lot of new faces,

Yours sincerely,
G. H. AUSTIN.

180 Years with The Buffs.

BY

JOE ENRIGHT, LATE 5309, THE BUFFS.

I FEEL sure the heartiest good wishes of The *Dragon* will go out to Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Carter on the occasion of their marriage which is announced elsewhere.

The Bridegroom was born in the regiment and will be well remembered by the "Old" brigade. It is interesting to hear about this wedding as it recalls to mind one of the finest military families on record. Born in The Buffs, reared in Buffs, fought in the Buffs, Their Home.—The Buffs.

Of course you know of old, that I am connected with the family, but, nevertheless, such a record is unbeatable in the Buffs, and I believe throughout the Army, and, if you like, the Navy thrown in.

Can the *Dragon* find out if a better record of service is recorded? I feel sure the Kesby or Smith families cannot equal it. What a row there will be.

A REAL "BUFFS" FAMILY RECORD.

No. 161 Sergt.-Major William Carter (deceased).

		Service.		Honours&Awards.
Sergeant Major	William Carter	46	Father	The Buffs, (Deceased). Meritorious Service Medal Long Service & Good conduct Medal.
S.S.M.	W. Carter	35	Son	Army Pay Corps. King's S.A. Medal Queen's South African Medal & clasps. Long service & good conduct Medal.
Corporal	P. C. Carter	8	Son	The Buffs, Died of disease, South Africa 1900, King & Queen's S.A. Medals & clasps.
Captain	F. A. Carter, M.C.	28	Son	The Buffs, wounded South African War. Served Great War, Awarded Military Cross, King & Queen's S.A. medals with clasp Victory & General Service medals, 1914 & 1915 Star, also Long service & good conduct medal.
S.S.M.	L. V. Carter	27	Son	The Buffs & Army Pay Corps Served Great War 1914 Star, Victory, & General Service Medal, Long service & Good Conduct Medal.
Captain	Hugh Carter	24	Son	The Buffs, Served South African & Great Wars. Killed in France. King & Queen's South African Medals with clasp 1914 Star, Victory Medal, General Service Medal and Medal for long service & Good Conduct
Corporal	R. B. Carter	7	Son	The Buffs, (T)., Served Great War Victory Medal, General Service Medal.
Sapper	F. Carter	5	Son	Royal Engineers Served Great War General Service Medal.

Total Service of Family, 180 years.

Another interesting record of the family is that Capt. Carter (Ernie) informs me that at one time during the life of his father there were five Good Conduct medals in the family, all of the recipients being at that time alive.

Sergt.-Major W. Carter, The Buffs; S.S.M. W. Carter, The Buffs and Army Pay Corps; Capt. E. A. Carter, The Buffs; S.S.M. L. V. Carter, The Buffs and Army Pay Corps; Capt. Hugh Carter, The Buffs.

Out of five daughters of the family three married Buffs. Excepting the eldest son, all the family were born and reared in the regiment. I think such a family record is unique and one to be proud of. Rightly they claim the honour of being Sons and Daughters of "The "Buffs."

Army Encyclopædia.

FADING AWAY.—The process of natural dissemination which formerly overtook Old Soldiers, and which is well-known to have taken the place of dying, amongst them. This phenomenon has, however, on grounds of National Economy, lately become manifest somewhere (also sometimes) about the 21st year of the soldier's service.

FAG.—A junior schoolboy compelled against his will to drudge for a senior. The first-known fag is believed to have been a Master Woodbine, whose duties as a fag proved exceedingly distasteful to him. So much so, indeed, that his temperamental excesses eventually caused him to be known everywhere as "Wild Woodbine"—still held to be the most famous fag in existence.

FAG-END.—Smoked by many during that period of the week from which it takes its name.

FAIRY-RING.—See Page..... ?

FATIGUE.—A military pastime in which soldiers kill time instead of men. Troops are invariably despatched to the fatigue in batches, one for each task, varying in numbers from one man to do the work of a score, to three score and ten men to do the work of one. The latter generally has a generous sprinkling of N.C.O.'s (as distinct from a sprinkling of generous N.C.O.'s) to see fair play, the which they invariably manage to see with little difficulty.

Fatigue parties are often sent to Officers and Sergeants' Messes to wipe things out. This is usually thoroughly carried out, particularly with regard to the Mess Crockery and glass.

FIELD DAY.—Exercise in Mimic warfare in the open, usually by two forces, one of which does its utmost surrepticiously to break through the lines of the other. Doubtless the finest thing for teaching the rudiments of "dodging the column."

FIELD MARSHAL.—An Army Officer whose kit, composed almost entirely of batons, is carried in the knapsack of every private soldier. Private soldiers of course, do not carry knapsacks.

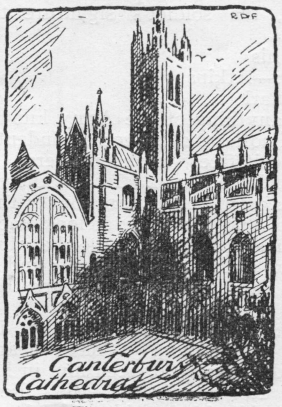
FIFE.—An alleged musical instrument played in conspiracy with drums. Derivation:—From German PFEIFE, with P Silent. Unfortunately, however, the instrument rarely follows the excellent example afforded by that letter. Known to be in great disfavour among Army Bandmasters, (as well as lay-musicians), the former being constantly heard to remark impatiently, "Oh blow it."

Other authorities assert that it takes its name from the Scottish town where the inventor of the bagpipes worked, and that he was responsible also for this atrocity. Scotch apologists however, hotly deny this sweeping assertion.

Short articles, sketches, drawings, and photographs are always acceptable for the Dragon.

"Beneath Bell Harry."

By Treadmill.



THE end of the hunting season is drawing very near and Points to Point are the order of the day. Anyone who is the proud possessor of a horse with four legs goes in for a ride across country, while their two-legged cousins of the assinine tribe put their money on and lose it. In spite of the fact that a Point to Point is the signal for Jupiter Pluvius or the Snow King to rent their wrath on this part of the world we have had some very good fun watching and meeting old friends once again.

I saw the Games' Officer come back from the town yesterday armed with three new cricket bats, so I presume that summer is nearly here; I presume, I say, for never have I found the coal issue more in demand.

We have started a weekly route march for recruits headed by the band. It is a great success and causes a great flutter in the Cathedral Dove Cots. How proud we feel as we swing smartly down the High Street to the accompaniment of the good old popular tunes. How we wish we could march at ease and give a friendly nod to our admirers of the gentle sex.

We are all, or at least those of us who have a sufficiency of ready cash to buy a return ticket, off on Easter Leave; and having borrowed enough money to get away, "Nuff Sed" as I'm off to pack.

Inter-Section Challenge Shield.

The Contests in Wrestling, Football and Cross-Country Running were taken up with remarkable enthusiasm, by all Sections in the hope of being the proud winners of the Depot Inter-section Challenge Shield. And congratulations to Cpl. Wright and his merry men on their success.

The wrestling, though of rather a crude nature at times, was brimful of go and enthusiasm, and some good bouts were seen. Little science perhaps, but good honest straightforward battles. The Commanding Officer and the Adjutant acted as Judges, while C.Q.M.S. Jones was the M.C. and S.-Sgt. Springett the Referee.

Football (6 a side) was also very keenly contested from start to finish and most of the matches caused a deal of excitement.

The Cross Country Running was over a course from Mill House to half a mile west of Fordwich, then to Barrack Square, a distance of 3 miles. Varied country with some hills. Owing to wet weather the going was somewhat heavy. The first man in was Pte. Aylward.

The following are the results of the Competition in full.

Football.

	Played.	Won.	Lost.	Drawn.	Points.	Position.
B. 1	6	4	1	1	9	1
A. 3.	6	4	2	—	8	2
B. 2.	6	4	2	—	8	3
A. 1.	6	3	2	1	7	4
A. 2.	6	2	4	—	4	5
B. 3.	6	—	5	1	1	6

B. 1 2 points for Shield. A. 3 · 1 point for Shield.

Wrestling.

A. 3, 14 points; B. 1, 13 points; A. 4, 12 points; B. 2, 12 points; A. 1, B. 3. 11 points; A. 2, 10 points.

A. 3, 2 points for Shield. B. 1, 1 point for Shield.

Cross-Country Run.

A 3.

Wrestling.

A 3.

Final Winners.

A. 3, Corporal Wright's Section.

Privates Dances.

This feature of Depot Social life, which has been carried out in the Prince of Wales' Institute throughout the Dancing Season, and continues to be popular, is losing none of its attraction. Dances are held every Thursday, those on all Thursdays in the month except one being practice dances, while the other is a "full dress" dance with a charge for admission. Adequate support is given by Civilian Guests so the recruits are able to add dancing to their curriculum.

A.R.A. Bronze Medal.

The winner of this medal for the month of March was No. 6281439 Pte. Shardlow, late B Coy. (now 1st Battn.)

His scores in the five rounds Application practices were :—

1st Shoot. 15; 2nd shoot, 18; 3rd shoot, 17.

Aggregate, 16·66.

Football.

An outstanding feature of this year's football season has been the great interest taken by the recruits in the fortunes of the Team. Throughout the season they have always attended in large numbers, and the interest shown by them augurs well for the football of the future in the Regiment.

Canterbury Hospital Cup—

Semi-Final.

Buffs Depot v. Swalecliffe.

These teams met in the semi-final of the above Competition on 25th March, under wretched climatic conditions and The Depot overwhelmed their opponents to the extent of 9—0.

For the Buffs, Ingram was in great form at outside left, whilst Parry and Middleton were very effective at half.

The Buffs thus qualified for the final, the date of which has not yet been fixed.

Canterbury and District Junior League.

Buffs' Depot v. R.F.A.

Extremities met on 8th April, when the teams at either end of the table were engaged. The result, was, of course, a foregone conclusion, as the winners might just as well have tried to turn night into day as to keep their opponents out. The result was a win for the Depot 18—0.

Buffs Depot v. Baptist Institute.

Continuing their unbeaten record in the League, the Depot outplayed their opponents in this match to the tune of 8–0, the goal scorers being Shelton (5), Drumgold, Smith, and Ingram.

Results up to date.

Club.	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals. F.	A.	P.
Buffs Depot	17	16	0	1	118	3	33
Lesser Stour	14	12	1	1	80	18	25
Baptists	17	9	2	6	49	21	24
Swalecliffe	16	10	5	1	43	39	21
Herne Bay A.	15	7	5	3	31	17	17
Rovers	16	6	9	1	34	38	13
G.P.O. Engnrs.	17	5	9	3	28	48	13
Herne United	18	4	13	1	31	60	9
Old Pals United	16	2	12	2	27	73	6
R.F.A. (T.)	15	0	14	1	6	119	1

Hockey.

The result of this year's 1921.22) hockey season is as follows :— Matches played 25. Won 14. Drawn 5. Lost 6.

And the following have been awarded their colours :—

Capt. Strettell, Rev. Cooper-Hunt, C.F., Lt. Willows, Sgt.-Dr. Clayton, C.S.M. Couchman, L/C. Adams, Dr. Philpott, Dr. Richards.

Beneath Bell Harry—*continued.*

THE SERGEANTS' MESS.

On the 24th March, some 25 members and old Buffs, together with their wives, motored to Shorncliffe, having been kindly invited by the 1st Battalion to attend their Sergeants' Dance.

This was a very enjoyable evening, and the whole party were sorry that they had to leave at 2 a.m., which was before the finish of the festivities. Major Foster and Capt. Stone represented the Depot Officers, and the affair was attended by a large number of 1st Battalion Officers in addition. It was altogether a splendid entertainment, and leaves one regret only and that is, that the Battalion has left us.

On the same day we played the Depot Corporals at hockey and lost to the tune of 3–1, a result for which the goal-keeper vigorously declaims all responsibility.

St. Patrick's Night.

A very well-attended dance was held in the Garrison Gymnasium on St. Patrick's night, about 300 being present, all of whom were obviously sorry when the last Waltz came. The room was prettily decorated with evergreens, festoons, imitation flowers, and a certain amount of mess furniture had been requisitioned to add to the comfort of the guests. The Band under L/C. Collier was as usual, splendid. One of the square dances was so vigorously done that some of the electric globes were brought down, happily without accident. Paper caps were distributed to the dancers which caused endless fun, and streamers added to the general gaiety. A great success indeed.

Whist Drives.

Our weekly whist drives in the Mess continue to be popular, and they are being continued, in our new mess, although they took the place of dances thereat when we had to move for the cleaning up.

The winners on the 11th April were :—

Ladies : 1st Mrs. Osborne.
2nd Mrs. Foster.
Gents : 1st Mr. Holloway.
2nd Sgt. Osborne.

The Osborne family have evidently been practising !

We have now moved back again from the temporary one into the old Mess, which has been undergoing a very severe and thorough spring cleaning, overhauling, repairing and painting, and for a few days some of us scarcely knew the place. We cannot praise too highly the splendid work done for the Mess by Sergt. Potter and one or two willing helpers, as well as Staff-Sergt. Smith, to whose efforts alone is due the splendid appearance of the mess and its appointments. Sgt. Potter, as spring cleaner-in-chief, undertook the herculean task of taking every picture (and we have a few) from its frame, thoroughly cleaning it inside and out, reframing it, painting or gilding it where necessary, and what is perhaps the most important thing, very well matching them before rehanging them. That is of course only one item of many of his splendid efforts, and he and they all merit the highest praise.

And a Talk with the Editor.

We had a little chat with the Editor the other day, and the conversation turned to the subject "Criticism." He impressed upon us that Criticism is what he seeks—he absolutely welcomes it. It is a guide to him, he says, a most useful guide in the preparation of future numbers of *The Dragon*. If you don't like certain features which are appearing write and tell him so ; if you have any kind of suggestion to offer then let him have it. You won't offend him. Some scribes imagine at times that Editors are fearful "Big-wigs" and are approachable only through some such similar channels as O.C. Units communicate with the Headquarters of a Command. They are not. They are only human when all is said and done, and simply love to be written to (ladies are included).

In any case our good old Editor begs one and all to write to him... to "choke him off" if you like, worry him with conundrums, should you so desire, or to even let him into the "Know" as to what Gee-Gee will win the Derby, if you know yourself.

W.M.S.

THE CORPORALS.

A further success in the series of dances arranged by the Corporals of the Depot was achieved on Friday, March the 31st. This took place in the Gymnasium, and was perhaps the most successful dance of the season. The Gymnasium was most prettily decorated under the supervision of the Committee.

The company mustered about 200, several Officers of the garrison being present. We were very sorry that only one of the Corporals of the 1st Battalion was present the others not being able to get away owing to the pressure of duty. But we were very pleased again to have such a number of the Corporals of the 10th Royal Hussars who are always welcome.

The outstanding features of the night were the Spot Waltzing and Lucky Number Competition which resulted as follows :—

Ladies spot prize, Miss Rea ; Gentlemen's spot prize, Cpl. Elderton, X. Royal Hussars. Lucky number prize, Miss Partridge. The prizes were kindly presented by Mrs. Foster for whom three hearty cheers were called, and these nearly resulted in bringing the roof of the Gymnasium down.

The Committee—L/Cpls. Flood, Bradley and Smith are to be congratulated on the success of the dance which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. The Band was under the direction of Mr. Hunt. L/Cpl. Flood officiated as M.C.

J. H. FLOOD, L/C.

Tommy Atkins.

(reprinted from the Dragon of 1887).

TOMMY Atkins is the generic name for the British private. It is derived from the prescribed form of his monthly accounts, the soldier's signature to which stands thus :—

his
Thom :—Atkins
mark

Everyone who knows anything of the Army knows him under this name, and I notice that the correspondents on the Gold Coast adopted it freely in their letters.

I know Tommy well, and I like him. I have known him in weal and woe, on land and sea, in three out of the four quarters of the globe, and I shall ever look back on my relations with Thomas, "through all the changing scenes in life." in a spirit of kindly remembrance ; and if ever in my humble way I can do him a good turn, I'll do it.

I have seen him in health and sickness, in joy, in sorrow, in honour, and degradation. I have heard him trolling out some Soldiers' song, or seen him in his Barrack room footing it merrily to the fife's shrill notes. I have sat by his sick bedside and I have seen him in his death agony, I have seen him amidst the acclamations of his countrymen on the return from some gallantly fought campaign. I have seen him tied up to the triangles in the Barrack square quivering under the lash, or on board ship in mid ocean lashed to a grating, getting four dozen from a boatswain's mate, sights which, thank God, I can never see again. I have seen him receiving the Victoria Cross from his Sovereign ; I have seen him alas ! on the scaffold.

At 5 a.m. daily, supposing it to be summer, the reveille brings Tommy out of bed and after rolling up his mattress, strapping it up tight, folding his sheets and rug, all exactly according to a little drawing of how it is to be done hanging up in the room, he proceeds to make toilette. He sticks his broken piece of looking glass (at least I never came across Tommy with a whole one) against the window and shaves according to regulations with a regulation brush and a piece of soap of the regulation size. He then takes his towel and soap and repairs to one of the ablution rooms, of which there are always a sufficiency in every barrack. After a short stay here he emerges shining from his matutinal "rinse," and completes his toilette.

At about 6.30 a.m. he turns out for early morning drill, at which the Non-commissioned Officers, the Sergeant Major, and the Adjutant are present. After about an hour or so of "right 'arf turn ; left 'arf turn ; take the beggar's name down" (as chronicled by Punch), he is dismissed with a pretty keen appetite for his breakfast. This, as provided for him partly by Government, consists of a basin of hot tea or coffee, and as much of his day's allowance of bread as he likes to consume. But Tommy is a bit of an epicure, and he generally has a penny or two to expend in a saveloy, a bloater, a bunch of radishes, or a sausage, wherewith to give zest to his morning meal : there are always authorised vendors of these luxuries in camp and barracks. I don't think from what I have seen of him that Tommy is particular about his sausages, and I imagine he would listen to that thrilling verse of the "little wee dog" which throws a horrible light on their manufacture with a smack of the lips rather than a shudder. After breakfast he prepares himself for the great event of the day, the Commanding Officer's parade at half-past ten or eleven.

Picture Framing and Art Depot.
B. & W. FISK-MOORE,
Canterbury.
Tel. 337.

The 4th Battalion.

WELCOME TO THE 1ST BATTALION.

AS a welcome to the 1st Battn. a smoking concert was given by the 4th Battalion at the Drill Hall, Folkestone, on March 23rd.

The chair was taken by Lt.-Colonel F. Mainwaring Dunstan, commanding the 4th Battn., whilst others present were: The Mayor of Folkestone (Alderman R. G. Wood, J.P.), the Mayor of Hythe (Councillor C. D. Twopeny, J.P.), Major-General Younghusband, C.B. C.M.G., Lieut.-Colonel R.E. Power, D.S.O., with many officers of the 1st Battalion

The Chairman in his speech of welcome, said how pleased they were to see all ranks of the 1st Battn. there that night. The war had made a great difference. Before they used, to talk about the Regulars, the Militia, but now, they talked about regiments and that spirit showed that their elder brothers of the Regulars did regard them in that way. He asked the 4th Battalion to drink to the health of the 1st Battalion and coupled the toast with the name of Colonel Power.

Colonel Power in his reply said he attached great importance to the maintenance of close attachment between all battalions. They were all Buffs. The presence of the Mayor of Folkestone was a great thing. They were very sorry that their stay was to be a short one, but they would carry with them the kindest recollections of the 4th Battalion and their welcome to Kent, and the hospitality they had been shown that evening. He asked all the officers and men of the 1st Battalion to drink the health of the officers and men of the 4th Battalion.

The Mayor of Folkestone said he welcomed the 1st Battalion on behalf of the civic authority of the town, and on behalf of the inhabitants of Folkestone. He understood that the 1st Battalion was a very sporting Battalion. They knew that they liked boxing as they saw by the exhibition in that hall a short while ago. They knew they were good footballers. They had played in the semi-final of the Irish Cup and they had played for the Army in England. He knew that they played hockey and rugger as well. They were proud of the Buffs as a regiment. They were proud of what they had done in France, and they were proud of their record, and his only regret was that their stay at Shorncliffe was to be such a short one.

The Mayor of Hythe said he was proud to be there that evening to give them just as hearty a welcome from Hythe as from Folkestone. They would get a welcome all over Kent. They liked, honoured, and respected them and they wanted to do everything they could for them. He was pleased to say that he had been in the Buffs. It was only in the Militia, but once a Buff always a Buff. During the war he was a volunteer, so he had been twice a Buff. He wanted to give them the very best welcome that Hythe could.

An excellent programme was carried out by Messrs. D. Macarthey, C. Weatherburn, C. McGuire, Edgar Berte, D. Spain, H. Southall, Godfrey Buller, Aubrey Brett, Brooker, and Ernest Shirley, whilst selections were rendered by Mr. J. Nelson's orchestra.

BOUNTIES.

Although the appended information relating to Bounties may not be of immediate use to those now serving, it is published as a guide for those who are intending to join us.

The Scale.

The following applies to all enlisting after 2/3/22.

1. A Trained man will be entitled to £2 10s. 0d. for each Training Year for which he either :—
   (*a*) Performs 20 Drills and attends Annual Camp for 15 days.
   (*b*) ,, 30 ,, ,, 8 days.
   A Recruit will be entitled to £2 if he either :—
   (*a*) Performs the number of Drills for his arm of Service and attends Camp for 15 days.
   (*b*) Performs 10 Drills in excess of the number prescribed for his arm of Service and attends Camp for 8 days.
2. In addition to the Bounties under para 2. a man will be entitled to a Bounty of 10/- for Musketry under the conditions in para. 2. of A.O. 278 of 1920.
3. The maximum amount which may be earned in any one year is £3. in the case of a Trained man and £2 10s. 0d. in the case of a Recruit.
4. If a man has performed the full number of Drills prescribed for his arm of service is prevented by disability duly certified from attending for the period required to enable him to earn bounty under para 2 he may receive a bounty calculated at the rate of 6d. a Drill up to the maximum number of Drills prescribed in para 2 for a Trained man or Recruit as the case may be.
5. Men serving on 2/3/22 will be entitled to the Bounties under A.O. 278 of 1920 during the continuance of their then current engagements only.

It will be observed however that whilst the maximum amounts which may be earned under the old conditions are greater than under the new it is possible in certain contingencies for men to earn a larger bounty under the new conditions than under the old for the same amount of training. It has therefore been decided to allow all men entitled to the old conditions to elect whether they will in future be dealt with wholly under A.O. 278 of 1920 or wholly under this letter. Such election must be exercised in writing not later than 30/4/22 and the election will be final.

It is pointed out that it is the intentions that no relaxations in the conditions of A.O. 278 of 1920 shall in future be made in the cases where it is still applicable.

SOCIAL CLUB DANCE.

The Social Club scored a further notable success on 13th March, 1922, when the committee held another of the series of fancy dress carnival balls in the Drill Hall. The feature of the evening was the fancy dress parade, for which there was a wide variety of costumes. The judges—Mrs. Allen, Miss Eillen Hill, Lieut. Swinford, and R.S.M. Ferrell, 10th Hussars—awarded the prizes as follows :—Ladies : 1, Miss Edney ('Arriet from 'Ampstead) ; 2, Mrs. Friend (Queen Guinevere). Gentlemen : 1, Pte. Cox (Goodnight) ; 2, Corpl. Nunn (Jester).

IN BRIEF.

On the whole we are glad to say that employers in this District have been most helpful, as regards giving leave for camp, and we feel sure that if the few who have not would only realise that they are not only doing their country a disservice, but the men also, by depriving them of the chance of gaining the Territorial Efficiency Medal, they will soon give their willing co-operation.

After all said and done, the electorate of the country, whom they form agreed to the desirability of a Territorial Army, so it is obvious that all should be prepared to support the Country in this respect.

We would remind all those officers who are officially appointed to the T.A. Reserve of 4th Battalion The Buffs that their active co-operation within the Battalion is cordially invited at all times.

The appointment to the Reserve need not in any way entail a severance of connection with the Regiment. With our reduced numbers, we are most anxious that all such officers should render all the support within their power to help alive the esprit de Corps of a Battalion so widely dispersed, which by the way, is now practically at full strength.

C.S.M. Potter has changed his quarters from Staplehurst to Cranbrook.

We are glad to say that authority has been received for Capt. C. C. Read to attend the Camp of his old unit this year.

And that Capt. H. G. James is now sufficiently restored in health to attend also.

Lt. E. H. Parsons has written announcing his early return from Peru, and we hope that in the near future an opportunity will be given him of putting into effect his oft expressed desire to take an active part in the Ramsgate detachment.

The Editor, *The Dragon*, offers a Prize of 10/6 for the best article received by him by the 14th inst. entitled "In Camp at Dibgate."

The Territorials—*continued.*

A COMPANY.

As the Thanet Correspondent is apparently too busy finding new subscribers to write our notes, we are about to quack for ourselves.

The Company is now fully organised with Platoons at Ramsgate, Margate and Herne Bay. All Drills are being well attended, and the Annual Musketry Course is well on it's way towards completion. We are hoping that the results will be worth publishing later on.

Our energetic Coy. Commander, Capt. F. A. Brisley, has arranged a Week-end Training Camp at Birchington at Easter, and although the programme of work is not a light one, about 60 men of the Coy. have already volunteered to attend.

As Bell Tents are liable to get lost in an Easterly wind on Birchington cliffs, we are to be quartered at the Drill Hall, and (could this have affected the attendance ?) we are to Mess at the Queen's Head Hotel.

The Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. F. Mainwaring Dunstan, hopes to inspect us during the Camp, and we have already received a promise of a visit from the G.S.O. in place of the Divisional Commander.

We still have a few vacancies in the Company and any Buff who has left the Colours, but still likes to don the uniform occasionally, will always find welcome at any of our Drill Halls.

It does not do to look too far ahead these days but we are hoping to renew a lot of old friendships on the 29th April, when, by kind permission of the Powers that are responsible for Strikes and attendant Defence Forces, Amalgamations, Economy Cuts, etc., etc., the Battalion proceeds to Dibgate Camp, Shorncliffe, for 15 days' annual Camp.

H.B.

THE SITTINGBOURNE COMPANY.

On the 15th March the company were engaged in their return Football Match against Milton Invicta, on the Milton Recreation Ground. The game was witnessed by a fair amount of spectators, and, the ground being fairly dry, resulted in a hard fought game with the company being winners by 1—0, the goal being scored by our (giant) Tich Knight. We also tried a new goal-keeper in Pte. Baker who turned out a great success especially in clearing.

On the 23rd March the company were well represented at the Battn. Smoking Concert held at Folkestone Drill Hall to entertain the 1st. Battalion on their arrival at Shorncliffe. The company were represented by 34 other ranks under Capt. Dean (V.C.) who had chartered a motor for the occasion which travelled via Ashford, Hythe and Sandgate. After a very enjoyable evening at the concert, we then set out for our homeward journey via Canterbury and Faversham, arriving in Sittingbourne at the early hour of 1.20 a.m.

The company very much appreciated the kindness of the Folkestone Detachment for arrangeing refreshments for them during the interval, and one and all of us tender a vote of thanks to them. Now we are looking forward to spending some happy hours together in camp.

The spoon solo rendered by Pte. Brissenden of this detachment was a great turn, and we hope to see more of him in Camp.

"C" THE WEALD COMPANY.

At the time of writing (the middle of April) it looks as if we shall have a very good muster for Camp, and that only a few will be unable to attend for at least a week of the training.

For this excellent result we have to thank Employers of Labour in our area for their consideration in allowing their men to go, often at inconvenience to themselves. Naturally an employer who has several Territorial Soldiers working for him cannot be expected to let them all go at once, particularly in a case where his business comes into competition with another who has no such men in his employ.

We know of several cases in which Employers have done everything possible to meet their men and we thank them for their public spirit.

The Gazette.

TRANSFERS.

6281144 Pte. P. Samuels, transferred to 4/R. Sussex Regt.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

The following have re-engaged for a further period of one year :—

6281063 L/C. F. Grinstead, 6281334 Pte. W. Norman, 6281140 Pte. H. Scott, 6281041 Pte. J. Burnett, 6393039 Pte. M. A. Lee, 6281088 Pte. C. Page.

PROMOTIONS.

The following promotions have been made :—

6281442 Pte. F. Hayward, 6280650 Cpl. S. Kelk, 6281198 Pte. F. C. Wood, promoted Sergeant.

6280763 L/C. F. Glover, 6280665 Pte. E. Nunn, 6280584 Pte. F. Boland, 7508 Pte. A. Stafford, 6280984 Pte. E. Rogers, promoted Corpls.

6281271 Pte. W. Prince, promoted A/Cpl.

APPOINTMENTS.

6281032 Pte. W. Watson, 6281278 Pte. J. Johnson, 3436661 Pte. H. Waterman, appointed Paid L/Cpl.

ENLISTMENTS.

Pte. F. Biscoe, Pte. A. Loggett, Pte. H. Philpott, Pte. J. Featherbe (Folkestone); Pte. W. Hubbard, Pte. J. Hanson (Dover); Pte. P. Tomkins, Pte. S. Hughes (Herne Bay); Pte. B. S. Richards, Pte. W. Hillier, (Sittingbourne); Pte. P. Garlinge (Canterbury).

DISCHARGES.

6281148 Pte. R. V. Swinnock, 6281258 Pte. G. Page.

The County Cricket Team.

THERE will be no Buff who will not follow very closely the doings of the Kent County XI. during the coming season, and a little insight into their prospects may not be amiss in the May issue of the *Dragon*, and the best of good luck to Col. Troughton and his merry men.

Generally speaking, the outlook is much the same as last year when it will be remembered the crying need was for a really first class fast bowler, who could play regularly for the side—or to quote the words of Lt.-Colonel Troughton: "If Summer is hard we'll badly miss a regular fast bowler, If wet our left-hander Woolley with Freeman may pull us out of anything."

Then another handicap to the side, undoubtedly, is the fact that a fully representative side can not turn out till August, when several of the best amateurs can be released from their professional duties. This applies to such valuable players as A. P. Day, G. N. Foster, A. F. Evans, and Captain W. Cornwallis each of whom can only play sometimes, whilst in regard to the other amateurs the following applies : A.F. Bickmore, and J. L. Bryan, one of the five most prominent young cricketers in 1921, will only be available in August; C. J. Bryan after the middle of July; and L. P. Hedges after the Varsity Match. On the other hand G. E. C. Wood will probably be available all the season. As regards the professionals, all who played last year, with the exception of Fairservice, who has migrated to Northumberland, will be available, so that taking things as a whole, the prospects of the side can be said to be encouraging, and, particularly so, if the summer be an average one and not a repetition of the excessive heat and draught of last year. Woolley of course is the giant of the side, and here are a few notes on his cricketing career taken from the "Cricketers Winter Annual of 1921—2.

F. E. WOOLLEY.

F. E. Woolley made his first appearance for Kent against Lancashire, at Whitsuntide, 1906. He "got a duck" in his first innings, but he scored 64 in his second, and it was obvious from the start of his career that he was a potential England player. No England XI. is, or has been for many years, complete without him.

He has visited Australia on two occasions—in 1911-1912 and 1920-1921—while he has twice been to South Africa with English teams. He played for England in 1909 against Australia at the Oval, and in the Triangular Tournament three years later did very well indeed, scoring 246 runs, with an average of 30, and taking 17 wickets for eight apiece. He was born at Tonbridge.

Woolley's two great innings at Lord's for England against Australia are fresh in every one's memory, and if ever a man deserved to score a century in one or both innings, he did.

He has made over 900 runs in Test matches for England against Australia, and in addition to his batting, he is a really fine field in the slips, and, on a sticky wicket, a dangerous slow left-handed bowler. He is the best left-handed batsman England has ever had, and there has never been a more graceful player. Very tall, he makes his strokes with the greatest ease, and so exact is his timing that the ball goes to the ring in double quick time. He is a beautiful straight driver, and he also cuts square and late very well indeed, and, like all left-handers, is very strong on the leg side.

He is the mainstay of Kent, and is one of the most natural players one could wish to see. I would as soon see him bat as anyone. Up to the end of the 1920 season he had scored, for Kent, 16,129 runs, with a batting average of 36·24, and had taken 1,083 wickets for 17·22 each. His highest score in Test matches, so far, is 133 not out at Sydney in 1912, and during that tour he hit up the huge score of 295 not out against Tasmania.

He is very good looking, and has a charming personality. He plays bridge well.

NIMSHI SENIOR.

You are charged with-

[A Morning at a London Police Court.]

BY AN OLD BUFF.

IT is ten o'clock on any week-day morning; outside a famous police, court, on the pavement are numerous people hanging about waiting for the opening of the morning sessions — uniformed constables, " plain clothes men," prisoners out on bail, witnesses, people interested in cases, others disinterested but who hoped to gain admission—all talking in little groups, food for the curious eyes of street loungers.

In the entrance, and along the passages, detectives are grouped together. Here and there a doctor or a solicitor, is chatting with a court official, whilst inside the court itself, final preparations are being made for the morning hearings.

The door behind the Bench opens and His Worship enters. A lean-faced man, with iron grey hair, clean shaven, he looks every inch a lawyer. The Clerk of the Court takes his place just beneath the Bench, his assistant at his side. To his left, behind the solicitors' table, a solemn-faced man and a quietly dressed woman sit. It is the Court missionary and his co-partner in the thankless task of giving a helping hand to the fallen.

Now the witnesses and " interested parties " are filing in, the magistrate glances hurriedly through the charge sheets before him.

Another door opens, and soon the " public gallery " (actually it is a vacant space at the back of the Court) is filled with men and women who have been waiting in a queue outside—who they are no one knows; they are probably just there in the hope of a sensation.

Mostly of the artisan class, some unemployed, others night workers, they stand herded together hats in hand listening with baited breath to each case. Hardly anything escapes them. Occasionally they smile, occasionally they wag their heads, or whisper among themselves excitedly. Sometimes an audible murmur of disapproval is heard, only to be silenced by a stern warning from the Usher.

" If these people don't keep quiet I shall have them turned out " is the magistrates' comment, when the murmurings are repeated—and there is silence again.

Let us take a few cases as the morning proceeds. " Bring in..... " says the Clerk, and the dock is then occupied by a young carman. He is charged with being drunk and disorderly on the previous night. Evidence is rapidly given, a plea of guilty is entered, a fine of 10/- is levied—it is his second offence.

" May I have time to pay, Sir,"

" He is not known at this court, is he? " The magistrate has a reputation for fairness " Very well, I give you six days."

Follows a young medical student; his is a similar charge and an added " assaulting a constable." Evidence rapidly given, a strict denial, cross-examination of the police by the accused, and the magistrate asks wearily " Have you any witnesses " " No sir, I had no chance." " Very well, I give you till three o'clock this afternoon to produce witnesses."

" Drunks " from the majority of charges at this court. An old apple-woman, her face wrinkled with age, is one of the most striking. She vehemently denies the charge and accuses the policeman of assault.

She says it is some years since she has been drunk. Comes the usual question " Is she known at this Court ? "

" Yes, sir, *she has been convicted* 200 *times* for drunkenness and only came out of prison a week ago, after serving her fourth sentence of four months "—all on the same charge."

The old woman looks appealingly at the magistrate, he returns her look with a gesture of despair.

" What *am* I going to do with you ? You spend your life in and out of prison. Why can't you leave the drink alone ? I'll remand you for seven days, and we'll see how you are then and what we can do with you."

" Thank you sir, but that young constable's a liar and ....." and the old woman is bundled out of the Court. Long after the door has closed behind her, she is heard shouting in the corridors.

A pleasant diversion is provided when a well-dressed man, obviously a person of some importance in the City, enters the court and is motioned to the dock, at the gate of which he hesitates. A little nudge from the constable, however, and he walks in and stands with bowed head, his face reddened. A voice in the well of the Court murmurs " Um, a toff on the razzle last night. Wonder what ' is missus ' 'll say ! "

" You are charged..... " same old charge, same old evidence, same question by the magistrate " Have you anything to say. Are you guilty or not guilty ? "

A slight raising of the head, a nervous smile and the prisoner says quietly. " I'm afraid I really don't know. If the constable says so well....."

" Come, come. Please don't waste our time. We want to get on and I'm sure you don't want to be kept. Say whether or not you plead guilty." The magistrate's tone is sharp, but not unkindly.

" You see I don't remember much about it.....I..... I...suppose I was guilty " is the nervous rejoinder.

" That's right " says the magistrate briskly. " Now we can get on. Known ? No ! Very well, five shillings."

Just before lunch a young foreigner appears in the dock, on a certain charge. No evidence is offered against him, and he is discharged. He leaves the dock and looks round him, mystified. A friend in the well of the court dashes out and takes him triumphantly by the arm out of the court—to freedom.

Humour runs hand in hand with sadness; pain and joy alternate; while every phase of human nature is laid bare.

And so it goes on day after day. Rich and poor, high and low, famous and infamous make their appearance before a representative of His Majesty's laws and pay the price of their folly.

If every reader of *The Dragon* would get one other subscriber, our circulation would exceed 5000. Will *you* help us in this way ?

The Young Soldier's Handbook.

Guards, and how to do them.

(By one who does them but who desires to remain anonymous)

" Wot O, Korplar."

WEN yer gose on gard, ave yer kip reddy 2 git in 2. Smoak and reed the *Dragon*. Sleap if yer kan.

2. Don't let on as yer as any matches or fags. A man wot lends matches on gard is wuss nor a beest in the field. Mi oth.

3. Skware the korplar of the gard, sai to im " wot O korplar!" an eel sai " wot O! " an yer git sum ov is duff fer dinner. This ere is pollissy.

4. Doan't never taik no superflush kit on gard wiv yer, nives an forcks is rediklus, but never cum off wivout a varyity of smorl gear, wot yer've fownd permiskus like. Wiv jugement, a desent kit kan be akoomilated in a shawt time.

5. Sentery goa is a noosanse at enny time ov the dai. Wotevver yer duz, doan't wurk 2 mutch; Remember the price ov butes.

6. Stan' at eese, exsept wen the C.O. is kummin, likewize the majers. Then yer must goa up an down yer beet like a flyne-focks. Giv em the kant-up in stile. Leftennants doan't siggerfy no-ow, they is gennlly thinkin ov gurls sew thay dussent see yew, an yew, ov korse, dussent taik no notise ov thay.

7. Kumpinny orfcers is hecksepshuns 2 this rool. Olwaes slute im or maibe eel giv yer wot 4 neckst time yer sese im. On such okashuns miner fences run three dais sertin.

8. Ollwais, wen yer gits releeved 4 dinner, kepe the bloak wot releeves yer, watin 3 kworters of a our. This menes so much les sentree goa which is diploamussy.

9. Wen the awdley orfcer kums to taik the gard, doan't kepe im watin, git out ennyow, slongs yewer their. Caps aint no count at sutch times, but yew must ave on butes, an its best 2 ave yer riful olso.

10. Wen yer challengis a norfcer, sing owt loud sose eel ear yer. If e sais " Shurrup " or tells yer to axe a pleeceman, doan't ave no truck wiv im. But if e wants to ear the horders wen in an hilarus kondishun, resyte " 3 blind myse." eel B satisfide.

11. If yer feals sleapy on sentree goa yer'd best goa for a walk rownd the married ¼s. This is perrylus bit it keeps yer awaik.

12. If ennyboddy cums sneekin rownd yer poast arfter dark, doant challinge im, it im sivearly in the stummik wiv the but ov yer riful. Eel goa ome thinkin.

13. Smoakin on gard is essenshul. Hif yer poast is a maggysene one yer ken smoak in pease. No boddy kan abuse yer, an if enny aksedents appens, yew will bee helsewear.

14. In kase of fyr breakin owt, studdy the sityouashun. Awdly rumes an ¼ masters stors yew kin let burn wiv impoonity. Hif it is the kanteen owever, yer deserves sicks munths if yer dussent rows up the gard.

15. If the sarjint majer kums inter the gard rume, yer musn't bee kort " nappin " if yerve got yer quipment orf. In this kase, if yer carn't hyde wen yer seize im cummin, tell im yer on fateeg. E mite taik it in, an if e doan't then the sarjint will ave ter taik u in, whitch is unfortnit.

16. Wen yer dismounts, doan't trubble ter klean nuthin, as no boddy gits the stick fer kummin orf the kleanest, sew their ain't nuthin ter klean up for. Butt doan't fergit yer superflush kit.

17. If yer putts an apeknee in yer magazine, yer'll git complements on yer drill. But it ain't no good swankin on a pai dai an puttin in a Fisher. This ere is sence.

18. Wen pradin as nixt releef thair ain't no tearin need to be puffick in tern owt. Giv the korplar a chawnce to check yer, or eel feel owt ov it.

19. If yer seize enny wun kum by smokin wen on yer beat, check im sevearlee. E mite thro it down, an that's wear u kum in.

" Don't do Guards."

20. If yer seize a prisunner brakin out ov the detenshun rume, ten to wun its onlee deludhuns, an if it ain't never mind. Yer'll bee in thair yerself sum day, an e's praps innersent. This ere is tackt.

21. Doan't doo gards.

Floreat Dragona.

WHEN Sergeants seem but sorry nags,
And fill with wind my canvas bags,
'Tis then I need this best of Tags—
Floreat Dragona!

When on parade things go amiss,
And life is anything but bliss,
'Tis then I fiercely mutter this—
Floreat Dragona!

At eventide when I go out,
And find her with some other lout,
Sa Faire rien, I only shout—
Floreat Dragona!

Should other Corps repudiate
The Buffs as being all that's great,
I then with this retaliate—
Floreat Dragona!

At Depot Week when old Buffs meet
And cheerily each other greet,
You'll hear them every one repeat—
Floreat Dragona!

When spirits falter—seem to sag—
We'll all join hands around the Flag,
And shout for all we're worth this Tag—
Floreat Dragona!

H.

Half-a-Crown.

HALF-A-CROWN only is the entrance fee on becoming a member of the Past and Present Association, and after then the annual subscription is only one shilling, whilst Life membership can be obtained for two guineas by officers, and one guinea by other ranks. If not already a member, send along your name with remittance to the Hon. Sec., Depot The Buffs, Canterbury, now.

Polo in the Army.

By Colonel E. D. Miller, D.S.O., O.B.E., of Rugby.

POLO is now recognised as a most important part of the training of an officer, as no player can distinguish himself at the game unless he can ride really well. Hunting and steeplechasing, are, of course, good schools for riding, especially hunting, for few officers ever get the chance of riding many steeplechases; but, many men are first-class riders to hounds without ever arriving at a very high pitch of excellence as horsemen; whereas, at Polo a man must ride at full speed and have perfect control of his mount with one hand, and must be able to ride well enough to start at full speed, stop and turn at all places and keep up the strain for an hour on end. He must have good hands and a strong seat, and he must have his wits about him and use his brains the whole time; above all, it is a game of combination, the intricacies of which he must carefully study, and he must play for his side and not for himself—a selfish player never arrives at the top of the tree.

In fact, all the qualities which make a man a first-class Polo player, are the same that make him a good officer. The great advantage of hunting as a school is that, when riding to hounds, an eye for country is cultivated, and the same quick decision is necessary in both pursuits, but Polo is a game of combination where one plays for the Regiment or the team; when out hunting, the sportsman is looking after his own amusement only, and is not helping anyone but himself.

When a boy joins a Cavalry Regiment or Artillery, he has the advantages of the riding school and is well taught in all the niceties of horsemanship. Polo is the natural sequence to this, and all that he learns in the school is put into practice at the game at far higher speed. Officers of other arms can easily arrange to have courses in riding at Cavalry or Gunner schools during the winter months. Polo requires a lot of training and self-denial; a man must be in perfect condition to stand the strain of a hard match, and the average officer must deny himself much in order to be able to afford it. Several of our players are teetotallers and non-smokers.

The higher authorities in the Army are well aware of the importance of Polo and are very anxious that the game should be kept going in the future as well as it has gone in the past, not only for the above reasons, but also because they know what a valuable remount the Polo pony has proved itself in all our campaigns.

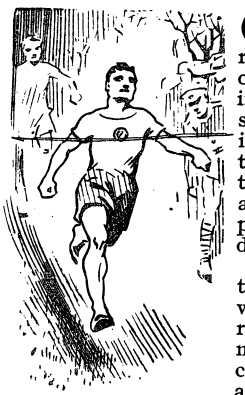
The Army is now the only nursery for the game and nearly all the future players will come from the Service. In former days very many county clubs flourished and many recruits were entered to the game from the Counties and Universities, but nowadays the cost is prohibitive to all but rich men, with the result that most county clubs have ceased to exist.

From this it will be seen that Polo should be played in every Unit and by every Officer who can possibly manage it, or the game will die out except for the few rich men who play in London.

If Polo dies out in England, the incomparable kind of pony which now fetches such a good price, and is such a valuable national asset, will cease to be bred, so, from every point of view, it is incumbent on every officer to support the game in every way he possibly can.

Hints for Athletes.

(Training for Cross-Country running)



CROSS-COUNTRY running, like any other form of running, is primarily a question of speed; the second item of importance is staying power, stamina, or "guts." The training must, therefore, be devoted to such work as will: (1) Give the necessary staying power; and (2) create the greatest possible speed over the whole distance.

All exercises that will strengthen the legs, ankles, stomach, wind, must be gone in for as regards (1). As regards (2), the methods adopted must vary according to individuals, but as a general rule don't run the full distance of the race you are training for, but develop speed over shorter distances, so that when you run the full distance, run it at the same pace as the shorter one.

The following is a very fair week's training programme for an average man training for a seven mile race. It must be remembered, of course, that the amount of training required by individuals varies according to their build, nature and habits; *i.e.*, a thick set man, who may be fat, requires more training than the lean kind.

A short fast walk for half an hour daily before breakfast on a biscuit and cup of tea, is excellent.

Monday.—Run of say three or four miles, split up into ordinary work, then a fast sprint, and so on, and run all out in the last half mile.

Tuesday.—One hour's good hard work in the gymnasium, with exercises for legs, wind, etc.

Wednesday.—Rest.

Thursday.—Same as for Tuesday.

Friday.—Same as for Monday.

Saturday or Sunday.—A good long walk of 10 to 20 miles, keeping a good pace the whole time, *i.e.*, four miles per hour, and occasional sprints thrown in.

The programme can be made more severe as time goes on, and two runs over the full distance during one month's training should be ample for most men.

Using your Head.

A good cross-country runner will use his head during the progress of the race and thus save himself no end, but here are a few general tips that may be found useful:—

Start.—It is necessary to go fast at the start in order to get away from the crush; try to reach the first obstacle early so as not to be kept waiting there. This is really most important, and means a saving of an enormous amount of energy. To catch up lost distance is very depressing and reduces the effort available for a good finish.

Course.—You must study the course with the following points in view: Good going to put on speed and improve your position; good gaps in fences so as not to waste time in getting through or over them; and the place from where you know you can run fast so as to arrive at the finishing post "all out."

Shoes.—Shoes are an important item. As a rule there is no road running, so that spikes should always be worn. One of the best shoes are those with a steel lining to prevent the spikes coming through the soles to the feet. Always have a strap or tape from the heel of the shoe round the ankle to prevent the shoe being pulled off in heavy going. Socks can be worn or not as desired.

Some runners find it very useful to run with a quill in the mouth in order to help keep it shut, and breathe more through the nose.

On getting a Job.

For Victims of "The Axe."

"WHAT are you going to do when you're sacked?" asked Henry suddenly from the depths of an arm chair. The question was apparently addressed to no one in particular, but Henry had a habit of addressing questions vaguely into the air. Henry's question was received in various ways by different members of the Mess. Some glanced up for a moment from the "*Public Appointments*" and "*Business Opportunities*" columns of the "*Times*" and the "*Morning Post,*" and then resumed their task of finding a lucrative and not over-worked employment. Others took no notice. The Senior Major adjusted his eye-glass and glared at Henry till he began to wish he hadn't spoken. The toast had been thick at breakfast that morning and it spoilt the Major's temper for the day. Finally the Adjutant answered. He had been engaged in deep and earnest conversation with the Quatermaster in one corner and now looked up with the air of a man for whom all difficulties are solved. "The Quatermaster and I" he said solemnly "have just fixed up to start as bookies with Frank as the tick-tack man." Frank by the bye is the Signaller. "Joe is going to work in the half-crown ring" he continued "and I am going on the stands. The Boy is going to join us to give air of innocence to the firm." "I don't think the Boy would be much use to you" interposed Kaye gloomily. "He'd never get the odds out before the race finished." The Boy does stammer a bit, it is true: but Kaye always was a pessimist.

The search for good jobs continued in silence for a bit. It would have done Sir Eric good to have seen it.

"You know, there must be plenty of good jobs about if one only knew where to look for them," said Owen hopefully. "There's all sorts of things one could do. There's —er— well all sorts of things, you know." "Such as painting the spots on rocking-horses," suggested Price helpfully. "I'm told that brings large remuneration with little expenditure of labour." "Or putting the bubbles in the soda-water" contributed Henry.

"Or tying the bow-ties on the dummies in drapers' windows" added Barry. Barry always was ambitious.

The scene shifts to breakfast the next morning. You know how difficult it is to be bright at breakfast at any time but in these days it is a positively funereal meal. The thread that suspended the sword over the head of Damocles seems like a manilla hawser compared with that which suspends the axe over ours. The only person who was really cheerful was the Senior Major: he had made his pension anyway and the toast was thin. Into this atmosphere of gloom burst Barry, bright and fresh from a morning run, ready to face the liver and bacon without a tremor. As I say, I hate people who are bright at breakfast, I have known deep and lasting hatreds spring from misplaced brightness in the early morning.

"I've got a jolly good job to go to" announced Barry cheerfully.

"I'm glad to hear it, my boy," said the Major. He was in a kindly mood that morning. "Capital, What is it?"

"Well, you see, sir" said Barry, "it's rather a queer sort of job I heard about from a pal of mine. But I believe it pays well."

The Major was getting really interested. "Well, my boy, what is it?"

"Making the twilight in a twilight-sleep home, sir" said Barry.

I told you the toast was thin that morning. It was very lucky.

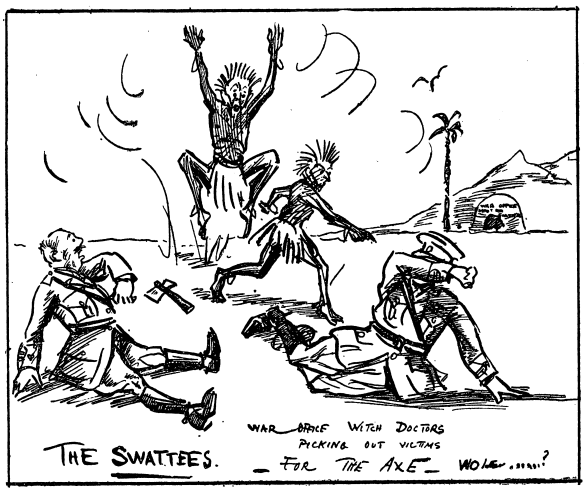
A.J.K.P.

The Cologne Post.

The Axe at work.

BY

A Well-known Artist.



Rates of Pay for Boys in the Army.

An Army Order lays down new rates of pay for boys enlisted after 21st March, 1922, for the purpose of undergoing instruction in a trade. These rates are 1/- a day for the first year from date of enlistment; for the second year, 1/3 a day for the first six months and 1/6 for the second six months; for the third year, 1/6 and 1/9 respectively. The grant of the increments will be subject to the attainment of the prescribed standard of efficiency.

Boys, enlisted, for the purpose of undergoing training in a trade, prior to 21st March, 1922, and now drawing pay at 1/- a day may have the option of coming on to the new scale of pay or alternatively of drawing pay at 1/6 a day under the conditions at present applicable to them. Boys so enlisted, who at 21st March, 1922, were drawing 1/6 a day may be allowed 1/9 a day after 2½ years from enlistment, subject to attaining the prescribed standard of efficiency.

Staff Colleges Entrance Examination.

It is officially stated that an examination for entrance to the Staff Colleges, at Camberley and Quetta, will be held in February, 1923, for the course commencing in January, 1924. At this Examination 42 vacancies for the Staff College, Camberley, will be open for competition, and allocated as follows:— Cavalry 2, Royal Artillery 5, Royal Engineers 3, Signals 1, Infantry 18, Royal Army Service Corps 1, Royal Marines 1, Indian Army 6, Commonwealth of Australia, Dominion 2, Forces of Canada 2, Dominion Forces of New Zealand 1. In addition the Army Council will offer 19 vacancies for the Staff College, Camberley, to be filled from the British Army, by nomination by the Army Council; the Indian Army, by nomination by the Commander-in-chief, India; the Union Forces of South Africa, by nomination by the Union Government; the Royal Navy, by nomination by the Admiralty; and the Royal Air Force, by nomination by the Air Ministry.

The Sportsman.

A Sportsman is a man who wins honestly, loses cheerfully, hopes increasingly, bestows quietly, receives naturally, differs fairly, agrees warmly, lives liberally, dies modestly, and whose playfellows are mankind.

"Volunteers."

"The 'freedom of a nation' may mean nothing more than the freedom of a few diplomats and generals to send millions of men into the bloody futility of war.

Self-determination must begin with the soldier if peace is to be secured. He must have the right to choose, not only whether he will join an army, but whether he will fight in any war to which that army is bidden."

(Labour Paper).

(Regimental Orders as anticipated by The "Old Buffer.")

Regimental Requests.

BY COLONEL WOOD. I. WERNT.
Late Commanding 13th Mob. Rusty Rifles.
PART I. No. 197.

1. **Duties.**—Disorderly Man for to-morrow :—Pte. Trotsky.
   Next for duty :—Pte. Lenin.
2. **Parades.**—It is notified that the Late Commanding Officer would like, subject to the men's approval, that they should be present in their chambers at any time between 11.00 and 14.00 hours, for the purpose of receiving their Company Officers and formulating their demands for the ensuing week. Men who are found asleep in bed will on no account be disturbed, but in these cases Company officers will continue to make further rounds until those men are found to have awakened.
3. **Fire Discipline.**—The following will be added to "STANDING REQUESTS FOR FIRE."
   PERMANENT REQUEST No. 16 :—
   In the event of a fire all ranks are asked to remain perfectly still until carried by their officers to a place of safety.
4. **Salary.**—(*a*) A Convoy of 64 lorries will proceed at 09.00 hours to-morrow by kind permission of the drivers, to Lloyd's Bank to draw the current week's salary for the mob. The usual donations from Officers towards the "Fund for Men in Debt" will be paid into Disorderly Room by 10.00 hours sharp.
5. **War.**—The L.C.O. apologises for the necessity of the publication of the following extract from War Office Letter No. 99 Misc./123 d/- 16/8/31.
   "A war has been arranged and will shortly take place subject of course to the approval of the Rank and File, between this Country and the Slavo-Jugs, to decide what to do with the Kaiser.
   The Field Officer of the Week will call on all other ranks during his tour of duty to collect the usual ballot papers, which the L.C.O. would like completed to show whether or not each Signatory is willing to fight.
6. **General Court Martial.** (*Promulgation of*).
   Captain C. A. Mona. Tried at the Tower, London. 13th Mob Rusty Rifles. 10/8/1931.
   1st charge :—Looking sideways at the Regimental Sweeper.
   2nd Charge :—Insolence to an inferior officer.
   3rd Charge :—Attempting to borrow money from a comrade.
   Finding :—Guilty.
   Sentence :—To be reduced to the Rank of Major-General, and to be put under such stoppages as will make good the morale damage inflicted upon the persons mentioned in the 1st and 2nd charges.

Promulgated at the War Office, this 12th day of August, 1931.

Confirmed and signed by
TOM MANNSKI.
LANCE-CORPORAL,
President, Soldiers' Union.

Some Goods ! !

(No responsibility is accepted by us for the statement made in the following Adverts.)

CORDITE
SIMPLIFIES
SOLDIERING !
CHEW it and swing the lead !

TRANSPORT DRIVERS
RECOMMEND WOOD MILNE
RUBBER HEELS
FOR MULES !

THE "SANDOWN" DEVELOPER.
Will make anyone or anything strong, and give anyone or anything a body to be proud of, (Government Beer excepted).

Mr. B. R. Swiller writes :—
"I had a bust of the late Mr. Gladstone, which after being treated with "Sandown" developed 2½" across the chest. I myself use it, and find my capacity enormously increased.

Little Jack Horner
Sat in the corner
Eating his "Novice" Bread,
And as was his habit
Gave half to the rabbit,
And now the poor blighter is dead.

"NOVICE" BREAD KILLS
MOTHS, BUGS, BEETLES and FLEAS.
If it kills rabbits, what won't it kill ?
Guaranteed harmless to human beings.
A long-felt want.
THE "NOVICE" BREAD COMPANY, LTD.

CANTERBURY COLIC CURED IN TWO DAYS.

Send £1 and a stamped addressed envelope to me, and I will send you full instructions for The Cure in Two Days.
ABSOLUTE SECRECY.

Mrs. Wottleliver writes :—
"I became suspicious of my husband owing to the long hours he was away from me and the little attention that he paid to me. I watched him carefully for some time and noticed a yellow film over his eyes at breakfast time and an inclination to bad temper. I at once wrote to you and secured the directions for your priceless cure. MY HUSBAND NOW NEVER LEAVES ME AND HIS EYES ARE ALWAYS BRIGHT.

DON'T WASTE TIME. WRITE AT ONCE.
To Canterbury Counter Colic Company, Ltd., 1234 Westgate, Canterbury.

Officers.

Bt.-Lt.-Col. H. Findlay, C.B.E., has been appointed Col. with seniority date Jan. 1st, 1921.

Capt. D. A. Wilkins, M.B.E., is secd. for service as an Adjt., T.A. March 11, 1920).

Lt. C. J. Wood, M.C., is restd. to the estabt. (July 8, 1921).

Lts. to be Capts.—R. M. Watson, and to remain secd.; L. M. S. Essell (March 14).

Col. the Lord Harris, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., C.B., T.D., late R.E. Kent Yeo., Hon. Col., 4th Bn., the Buffs is retired (March 31), under the terms of para. 116, T.A. Regns., and retains his rank, with permission to wear the prescribed uniform.

Lt. E. H. Varge, late Serv. Bn., to be Lt. (Oct. 20, 1921, with seny. Nov. 18, 1920).

Lt. J. H. Dobson retires, receiving a gratuity (April 12), and is granted rank of Capt., with seny., Nov. 14, 1917.

Sec. Lt. H. J. Wenban, late Serv. Bn., to be Sec. Lt. (Oct. 22, 1921, with seny. April 20, 1921).

The following officers have been posted to the Depot from the 1st Battalion, Capt. D. V. Thomas, O.B.E., and Lts. L. S. Symonds, Webster and Price.

The Depot.

Re-Enlistments.

Pte. C. W. Barnott (late R. W. Kent Regt.); Pte. D. F. N. Cox (late R.G.A., T.); Pte. C. B. Crowhurst (late R. Fusiliers); Pte. G. H. Dutt; Pte. G. E. Owen (late 13th London Regt. T.F.); Pte. L. J. Pryor (late R.A.M.C.)

Decrease.

The following have been posted to the 1st Battalion :—
6280384 A/C. W. Loonard, 6280080 Pte. Piper, 6281436 Pte. F. Carter, 6281409 Pte. A. Curtis, 6281437 Pte. J. McKenna, 6281439 Pte. H. Shardlow, 6281387 Pte. A. Aylward, 6281412 Pte. F. Fittall, 6278401 Pte. H. Hobbs, 1865400 Pte. C. Hill, 6281405 Pte. J. Read, 738612 Pte. Lourno, 6281399 Pte. Pelham, 6281400 Pte. Higgins, 6281376 Pte. Holland, 6281416 Pte. A. Parsons, 6281406 Pte. W. Martin, 7337418 Pte. Longhurst, 6281420 Pte. R. Heasman, 6281417 Pte. Cfoord.

Discharges.

6279811 L/C. Ainsworth, 6279857 Pte. E. Ambrose, 6279439 Sgt. H. Bromley, 6279540 Pte. F. Burr, 7807605 Sgt. N. Hook, 6279482 Pte. Kolson, 6279541 Pte. W. H. Evans, 7810123 Pte. A. Marsh, 6280300 L/C. H. Hove, 6279362 Pte. E. W. Stretton, 6279011 Pte. C. Small, 6279019 Sgt. A. Turner, 7814499 Pte. C. Wadelin.

Recruits.

Pte. J. R. Arnold, Pte. J. Bartlett, Pte. W. E. Bell, Pte. T. H. Chivers, Pte. T. Deverson, Pte. C. Finnis, Pte. G. Franks, Pte. C. C. Fagg, Pte. E. A. Farbrace, Boy F. Hudson (attested for 2nd Bn.), Pte. L. J. Jones, Pte. F. J. Morrison, Pte. A. M. F. Moat, Boy H. Nelthorpe (for 2nd Battalion), Pte. A. Patterson, Pte. G. S. Sheppard, Pte. C. W. Sandy, Pte. C. A. Simmons, Pte. E. A. Simmons.

Appointments.

The following have been appointed paid Acting-Corporals :—
6280382 L/C. Driscoll, 6279172 L/C. Middleton, 6279980 L/C. Crawley.

Educational Awards.

The following have been awarded Third Class Certificates of Education :—
1665399 Pte. W. Foster, 6281377 Pte. S. Sandwell, 6281446 Pte. C. Hunt, 732627 Pte. A. Coe, 6281462 Pte. F. Smith, 6280581 Pte. Alridge, 6281487 Pte. Golding, 6281497 Pte. Lnagdon, 6281501 Pte. Fuller, 6281486 Pte. Kite, 6281493 Pte. Jamieson, 6281448 Boy Cummins, 6281451 Boy Ashton, 6281456 Boy Rawlings.

Extension of Service.

The following have been permitted to extend their present enlistment to 12 years.
7815544 Pte. R. Douglas, 6280320 L/Cpl. C. Collier.

Arrivals.

The following have been posted to the Depot on arrival home from the 2nd Battalion :—
6279465 L/C. Bristow, 6279655 L/C. Gammon, 6279835 Pte. Barrett, 6280121 Pte. Boxall, 6279724 Pte. Blackwell, 6279810 Pte. Capper, 6280137 Pte. Daynes, 6279804 Pte. Elliott, 6280090 Pte. Knight, 6280105 Pte. Murray, 6279025 Pte. Pope, 6279752 Pte. Sturgeon, 6280136 Pte. Coomber, 6280093 Pte. Unwin, 6279690 Pte. A. Nalos, 6279395 A/Sgt. A. Russell, 6279850 Pte. A. Wolf, 6278636 Pte. E. Greenland.

And the following on their discharge from Netley Hospital :—
6280176 Pte. A. Buddon, 6279821 Pte. T. Clifton, 6279301 Pte. L. Moore.

Transfer.

7817374 C.S.M. F. Love has been posted to the Depot on transfer from The Depot, Tank Corps.

The 1st Battalion.

Promotions.

The following promotions have been made :—
6279123 Corpl. (O.R.C.) W. E. Hall, promoted Sergeant (O.R.C.)
6278325 Pte. (A/Sgt.) U. Waters, 7812274 A/Cpl. G. McLean, 1856303 Pte. (A/Sgt.) S. Louth, promoted Corpl.
6279004 Cpl. (A/Sgt.) J. Mullen, 6278110 Cpl. (A/Sgt.) W. Watson, promoted Sergt.
6278362 Cpl. (A/Sgt./Dmr.) P. Norwood, promoted Sergeant Drummer.

Appointments.

The following appointments have been made :—
6231289 Pte. A. Barrell, 6281236 Pte. J. Bowman, 6281242 Pte. F. Clifton, appointed Unpaid Lance-Corporal.
6281175 RC. A/L/Cpl. Turner, 621889 Pte. A. Barrell, 6281236 Pte. J. Bowman, 6281242 Pte. F. Clifton, appointed Unpaid-Lance-Cpls.

G.C. Badges.

Awarded 1st G.C. Badge :—6280221 Pte. J. Hammond, 6280237 Boy T. Wylle.
Awarded 2nd G.C. Badge :—6278602 Bdn. C. Martin.

Extension of Service.

6278490 Cpl. W. Hadaway has extended his service to complete 12 years with the Colours.

Increase.

The following have been posted from The Depot :—
6281409 Pte. A. C. Curtis, 6281416 Pte. A. Parsons, 6281410 Pte. W. Higgins, 6281406 Pte. W. Martin, 6281470 Pte. A. Clifford, 6281439 Pte. N. Shardlow, 6278401 Pte. H. Hobbs.

Decrease.

The following have been posted to The Depot :—6280390 Pte. Boal, 6281126 Pte. Lyons, 6280390 Pte. C. Boal, 6278065 C.S.M. S. Follett, 6279885 Cpl. Hamer, 6278231 Cpl. Vant,
6280900 Pte. W. Hogben has embarked to join the 2nd Battalion.
6278039R.Q.M.S.W.K.Martin has proceededhome pending discharge.

Transfer to Army Reserve.

6450637 Pte. J. J. McCarthy, 6279961 Pte. L. Knight, 6279776 L/Cpl. G. Buckles.

Discharges.

The following have been discharged :—
6279160 Pte. R. H. Woodward, 6280278 Pte. L. G. Fellows, 6280274 Pte. J. Barton, 6279984 Pte. C. R. Ford, 7808460 C.S.M. W. Knight, 6286375 Cpl. C. Hadlow, 6278946 Pte. F. Woodward, 6279122 Pte. H. Olive, 6278045 Dr. W. R. Baker, 6279397 Dr. J. E. Harris, 6279750 Pte. W. Williams, 6280280 L/Cpl. G. Gosbee, 6280275 Pte. A. Briggs, 6279985 Pte. W. T. Marsh, 6279580 Pte. G. Dear, 6280280 Cpl. T. Manuel, 6278922 Pte. H. Haydon, 6278850 Pte. F. W. V. Clark, 6279154 Pte. W. F. Smith, 6278373 L/Cpl. C. Mantell, 6278004 Pte. W. Palmer, 6280348 Pte. E. Soll, 6279045 Dr. W. R. Baker, 6279397 Dr. J. Harris, 6279750 Pte. Williams, 6278466 Pte. C. F. Davis, 6280299 Pte. A. A. Attwood, 6280297 Pte. C. Johnson, 6279476 Pte. A. H. Wild, 280685 Pte. H. J. C. Seckings, 6280377 Pte. A. Wetton, 6280372 Pte. A. V. Dixon, 6280284 Pte. A. C. Duvall, 6279779 Pte. E. Harris, 6280133 Pte. T. Boakes, 6279496 Pte. J. O'Morlihy, 6279557 Pte. C. Emory, 6279632 Cpl. E. Taylor, 6279039 Pte. W. Williams, 6280091 Pte. B. Freed, 6280365 Pte. F. Evans, 6280368 Pte. J. Mitchell, 6270039 R.Q.M.S. W. K. Martin.

The 2nd Battalion.

Appointments.

The following appointments have been made :—
No. 6278071 Q.M.S. (O.R.S.) Ings, appointed R.Q.M.S., 25/2/22
No. 6278717 C.S.M. Guerin, appointed Q.M.S. O.R.S.), 25/2/22.
No. 6278193 Sgt. Ambrose, appointed acting C.Q.M.S., 24/3/22.
No. 6278064 A/C.S.M. Upson, granted pay of acting rank, 25/2/22.
No. 6280206 Pte. Jewell, No. 6280076 Pte. Reman, No. 6279192 Bdm. Bartley, appointed Unpaid Lance-Corporals.

[*The 4th Battalion Gazette will be found on page* 156.—*Ed.*]

PRINTED BY GIBBS AND SONS, PALACE STREET, CANTERBURY.

A PAPER FOR THE BUFFS AND MEN OF KENT.

The Dragon

VETERI HONORE 15 FRONDESCIT AM 72

Post free Ireland & Abroad.
8/- per annum.
4/- 6 months.
2/- 3 months.

Offices:—
Depot, The Buffs,
Canterbury.

No. 271. June, 1922. Price Sixpence.

Personalia.

THE storm of protest, that immediately showed itself when the threat of moving the Buffs' Depot to Maidstone was published in the London Press, was only to be expected, but we feel that the Regiment, as a whole would like to join with us in thanking the Mayor and Corporation of Canterbury, the County generally, and the East Kent Press for the determined way in which they showed they expressed their resentment at such a hopelessly wrong proposal. Although the immediate danger of anything coming of this threat no longer obtains, it would be as well, we think, for all to "keep their eyes on the War Office," if for no other reason than that in an official communication, we are told that "*Consideration is being given to a general proposition that it would be an economy to group depots together.*"

Now, it is not for us, who are responsible for the running of a Regimental Paper, to express too freely all we feel in regard to the policy now raging of economizing at the expense of the fighting services, but we may, perhaps, be allowed to offer the opinion, that such economy as would be effected by moving our Depot, the Heart of the Regiment, from Canterbury, would be economy at the expense of sentiment, tradition efficiency and recruiting, or in other words at the expense of all that is best in a Regiment which all of us know to be the oldest, finest, and best in the Service.

And, before we pass to other matters, we offer our sympathy to those of the Regiment of all ranks, upon whom the axe either has fallen, or is shortly to fall. Our hope is that each may be quickly successful in finding other employment, and, that all will continue to keep in touch with us.

Another vote of thanks, which we feel our readers would like to record, is to the 1st Battalion for the splendid instalment of copy sent home to us the moment they arrived at Constantinople. Next month we hope to amplify their news with some photographs, and also to give some illustrations of the 2nd Battalion at Aden.

On another page, will be found a preliminary announcement relating to The Depot Week, an event which was initiated by Major Crookenden with such success last year. As this programme is developed, so will further announcements appear in *The Dragon*. In the meantime, our advice to Old Buffs is "Take your holiday in August, and avail yourselves of the offer of hospitality extended by the Depot."

We hear that Captain G. R. Howe hopes to get home on leave in August when his term as adjutant ends; he fears he will be too late for the cricket week, but in time for the Past and Present dinner.

Colonel L. C. R. Messel has been transferred to the General Reserve of the Territorial Army.

Captain and Mrs. Campbell Johnston, who have been spending the winter at Monte Carlo, are back in England again.

Mrs. Ingouville-Williams is at Como but hopes to be back in London in June.

We hear of Major C. Hood having been seen in London looking very fit; he and the whole of his family have been suffering from influenza all the winter, one after the other; they are now, we are glad to hear, all on the mend.

Mrs. Ravenhill has let her house at Lymington and has been living for some time in London (12, Park Mansions, Henry Street, St. John's Wood.)

We are very sorry to hear that Colonel L. I. B. Hulke has been very seedy again, and is at King Edward VII. Hospital, Grosvenor Crescent. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Major G. T. D. Hickman writes cheerily from Cirencester; hunting being over, he is turning his attention to his garden; he hopes to be at Canterbury for the Cricket Week, in his new car!

We are asked by Mr. A. J. Shepherd, Cleveland, 9 Victoria Road, Sidcup, whether any of our readers who were in Mesopotamia with the 5th Buffs can give any particulars of the death of his son, A/Sergeant Alexander George Shepherd. He is reported to have died of wounds on 16th January, 1916, but his father has also heard it said that he was killed outright. Sgt. Shepherd was one of the contingent from Wye College who joined the regiment.

Since our last appearance, Lieuts. Griffiths and Cass have joined the Depot from the 1st Battalion.

Whilst others whom the Depot have welcomed from the 1st Battalion are:— C.S.M. J. R. MacWalter, D.C.M., M.M., C.Q.M.S. J. Austen, and Sgts., Goodwin, C. McNeir, F. Page and S. Croucher.

Also, the following to the band, which incidentally is going great guns and being appreciated more and more every hour:—Sgts. Herbert, Denny, and Boarer, Bandsmen Cornwell, Greenland and Hudson.

Speaking of the Depot a recent visitor has been Major Miles Beevor looking fit and well in a brand new car.

We hear of the following officers of the 2nd Battalion being on the way home on leave from Aden :—Captain Price, and Lieuts. Cartwright, Hoare, Brooke and Knight. We hope to see all of them during the two cricket weeks.

Major Guy Lee has recently been enjoying a week's salmon fishing on the Wye, but the water was too low for good sport.

He did not, for instance, have the same extraordinary good luck as Mr. M. F. Ramsay, a well known Kent sportsman, who, in six angling hours, hooked 23 salmon in one day in the celebrated Bergham Dub and landed 20 of them, his kill for the day amounting to no less than 189 lbs. Now that we are on the subject of fishing, we are hoping Col. Eaton will send us an account of his experiences in Norway.

We are indebted to Capt. King, and to Sergeant MacMahon and Pte. Follington both of the 2nd Battalion for sending us a number of addresses of old Buffs to each of whom we have sent a copy of *The Dragon*.

All of which bring us to announce, that we propose to take immediate advantage of the reduction in postage rates when this is come into force; this to take the form of sending an announcement relating both to *The Dragon* and the War History to every old Buff whose name we are able to obtain. We invite the assistance of our readers in the waging of this campaign—or in other words we invite YOU to send us the name and address of every old Buff you may happen to have by you. And let us add here that it is thanks to those who have kindly brought up their annual subscription to 15/- that we are able to take this step.

Then another publicity step we have just taken, thanks to this same generosity, is to have a slide advertising *The Dragon* shown at every performance given at the Electric Theatre, Canterbury, this arrangement to be in force for a period of 20 weeks.

It will be remembered that in a recent issue, R.Q.M.S. A. Andrews, Hon. Sec. of the Past and Present Association, expressed the hope that a team of Old Buffs might be raised to take on the Depot Sergeants' Mess, at Cricket. This match has now been arranged for Saturday, June 24th, and we have undertaken to raise the team, so we hope that those who would like to take part in what will undoubtedly prove to be a most enjoyable afternoon will send their names to us as soon as possible

We are glad to hear of the improvement in the health of Mrs. McDouall which we hope will be maintained. And to Colonel McDouall, who leaves for Constantinople on the 14th inst. " Bon Voyage " and the best of luck. We shall all of us miss him at the Dragon Club Dinner.

We are sorry to hear that Mr. E. C. White, late 6278237 L/c., 2nd Battalion, is one of those in difficulty as regards employment down Rochester way. White, who was one of those taken prisoner at the same time as MacMahon tells us how much he enjoyed the latters' recent article, and how much he appreciates *The Dragon* as a means of keeping in touch with " the dear old Regiment."

Whilst another who has been badly up against it is Mr. Croucher who will be remembered as having been no less than 10 years in the officers' mess at the Depot prior to the War. Croucher is one of those who has suffered more than most as a result of the war, one of his three wounds having left him with a shattered arm which is not only of no use to him, but which repeatedly has sent him back to hospital for further treatment thereby meaning the loss of a job. In this case, we are glad to hear that the Benevolent Fund has come to his assistance; and Croucher is now making ready to go as steward on a boat going to Zanzibar, during which trip his wife and two children will remain at Bekesbourne. May the best of luck go with him.

We have received a cheery letter from Mr. T. Trevor (late 6394 Sergt.) from Perak in the Malay Straits, and with it a donation to the Benevolent Fund as well as a subscription to *The Dragon*. He tells us that he has recently seen Burke, Mantle, Dibble, Dowling and Neave all of whom he found going strong.

Then another message recently received from overseas is " Best wishes to *The Dragon* from the land of Kiwi," this coming from Captain G. J. Stow writing from Taranaki, New Zealand.

Our special number to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the Regiment which falls this year progresses slowly, no further suggestions as to the special features this should contain having reached us during the past month. So we again appeal for further assistance.

And as " our persuasive system " has found a resting place in another direction, vide one of the letters published on page 185, we are tempted to make just one more request. This is that Company Officers of all companies of the 4th Battalion will make a special effort to send us their news regularly each month for *The Dragon*.

We condole with Major Burns of the 2nd Battalion in his attack of Mumps. Even one mump, we know, can be a very depressing thing, and we wish him a speedy victory over those which have settled on him.

One who has recently joined the ranks of the Old Brigade is Lieut. J. H. Dobson who has been placed in the retired list with the rank of captain, which he temporarily held during part of the late war. Captain Dobson began his soldiering as a private, and served in the ranks and as a non-commissioned officer for nearly twenty-two years before getting his commission in 1917. Good luck to him.

Congratulations to the Depot Football team, on their brilliant Football Season.

We regret to hear that Mrs. Rye, the widow of the late Captain Rye, has been taken seriously ill, and has had to be removed to a nursing home at Faversham.

Every officer who has ever served at the Depot will regret to hear of the sudden death, from double pneumonia, of Mr. John Plummer.

Not to be outdone by our contemporaries, our Free Insurance Offer will be found on page 182.

We would again express the hope that all old Regular Officers will make a special effort to be present at the Dragon Club Dinner to be held at the Trocadero on the 14th inst.

In view of a suggestion having been made that an exhibition of Regimental relics, curios, and prints, etc., might be held at Canterbury, any of our readers who possess anything of interest are asked to send particulars to the Officer Commanding the Depot.

It was a gallant act of Mr. Jenner, an old Buff, who, though unable to swim, handed over his life-belt to one of the women passengers on the occasion of the recent sinking of the S.S. Egypt.

Past and Present Association.

THE following is a letter received from B Company of the 2nd Battalion

"May I draw attention to the fact that, in August last, the names of eight men of the Company were forwarded for membership of the Past and Present Association, and that, in December, the names of 57 more men were sent, together with a cheque covering their subscriptions. Up to the time of writing, the badges have been received, but the cheque has not been acknowledged, nor has any mention of the fact been made in the *Dragon*.

I might also mention that the names of these men and the cheque were sent off at least ten days before the list from D Company, which was acknowledged in the February *Dragon*."

I think the Membership of the Association would be considerably increased, were the badges sent out quicker and notices of these men joining published in the *Dragon*."

* * * *

With reference to the above, on receipt of the first eight names from this Company, the Badges were dispatched but were lost in transit. In the meantime, a very large number joined the Association as Life Members and Badges had to be obtained from the manufacturers. Some delay occurred in delivery (Labour unrest), but, on receipt, every one was dispatched to 2nd Battalion and another lot of Badges ordered to meet the further demands of that unit. These have now all been dispatched. Cheques were acknowledged to Mespot, and Badges dispatched to Aden as the Battalion was on the move to latter station.

Any omission in not publishing in *The Dragon* news of the great support given to the Association by the 2nd Battalion is much regretted, and towards making this good it now gives me the greatest pleasure in publishing the following figures :—

2ND BATTALION LIFE MEMBERS.

A Coy. 145. B Coy. 90. C Coy. 77.
D Coy. 57. E Coy. 59.
Grand Total 428.

THE OLD BRIGADE.

Mr. "Bill" Epps, once well known in both battalions has, I regret to say, fallen on evil days, the result of wounds received at Ypres, which resulted in his leg being amputated. Epps is now in Torquay struggling to make a living basket making. Any one who can assist him by giving orders, etc., will be helping the great cause.

Mr. E. J. Noble is living in Buxton and wishes to be remembered to all old pals. He is fit and well. Just left the C.M.A.

Sgt.-Major J. Harris, looking the picture of health, gave us a look up here at the Depot. He still resides in Thanet where he is always pleased to see old Buffs. Capt. Nicholas lives close by him.

Many men have left the Regiment quite recently, who were members of the Association. I should be glad of their addresses to enable me to keep in touch with them, especially regarding the dinner in October.

A very large number of old Buffs have expressed their regret at the taking from their midst of "Jack Quinn." Jack sold his business in Northgate about a year ago, and went back to Oireland, Youghall, but returned at the end of last year to Woolwich. I understand he died of double pneumonia. This is another connecting link with the past removed. R.I.P.

Capt. T. Rye is another old landmark removed from among us. He never properly recovered from wounds received in the War. The W.O.'s of the Depot found the carrying party.

Cpl. Rye who was demobbed about two years ago is now in the Glasgow Police Force. He is looking much better than he did when last at the Depot.

AND A REMINDER.

Don't Forget! Saturday, October 7th, at the Canon Street Hotel. That is the date of this year's annual dinner. Make a note of it and come yourself, and bring others with you. And of course the same applies to The Depot Week, vide page 176.

A. ANDREWS, R.Q.M.S.,
Hon. Sec.

Regimental Notabilities.

Mr. John Bennell (late R.S.M., The Buffs).

Born at Oxford.
Enlisted in 1/3 Foot The Buffs, 10th June, 1870 ; promoted Corporal October, 1874, Calcutta.
Reduced to ranks, July, 1875, Calcutta.
Promoted Corporal, February, 1880, Shorncliffe.
Promoted Sergeant, November, 1800, Shorncliffe.
Promoted Colour-Sergeant, July, 1882, Dover.
Promoted Militia Sergeant-Major, May, 1891, Canterbury.
Promoted Sergeant-Major Regimental Dist., July, 1895, Canterbury
Discharged to pension, 3rd July, 1901. Total Service 31 years.
Re-enlisted August, 1915 in 3/4 The Buffs.
Discharged over age, February, 1916.

SERVICE ABROAD.

1870 to 1879, India ; 1885 to 1887, Straits Settlements ; 1887 to 1888, India.

The 1st Battalion.

A 3,000 mile sea journey on a steady ship which plodded her way thro' a friendly sea and here we are. And be it known to all that our address until the Allies can persuade The Turks to accept their dose of medicine is 1st Battalion The Buffs, British Corps of Occupation, Constantinople.

A very pleasant journey! It was a nasty cold damp day (April 22nd) when we left Shorncliffe, but it cleared by the time we reached Southampton, where we found our baggage party had already stowed away our heavy stuff on the good ship "Huntsend," on which we embarked together with 600 details, mostly R.F.A., bound, like ourselves, for Constantinople.

"Auld Lang Syne" as the ship slipped away at 4.30 p.m., brought lumps to many throats. How that time does stir one's emotion at such a time! But evidently many on board were going out to some who were at the other end of the journey, for surely the last our friends at Southampton heard, sung lustily by most troops on board, was "By the blue lagoon she's waiting! my Bluebird!!"

The "Huntsend" took the Spithead way round the Island and anchored for a while off Southsea while all on board were allotted boat stations. Then away once more, and before night this time our old country—that Homeland, strangely nearer to all English men's hearts *when they are out of it*!—was out of sight and we had set our faces towards another land.

It had been a day full of bustle and excitement, for many of The Buffs are young soldiers who had not experienced troop-ship life; and a meal over, and hammocks drawn, the regiment was soon asleep.

Sunday, 23rd. (St. George's Day) found us at 9.45 at boat stations, (as indeed did every day), and afterwards we had that exceptional experience of Divine Service at sea. How near God seemed to be; and how the memory of that simple yet impressive service will live—the little table with its Union Jack, the padre in his surplice, the band accompanied hymns and chants, the prayers, the ocean around, the throbbing engines, the ropes and spars, and that crowd of men, going out on their Imperial task.....

Sunday evening found the wind blowing harder and the sea cutting up a bit, and by Monday morning the discomforts of mal-de-mer had been experienced by many. In fact the whole of Monday was none too pleasant, so we hasten to Tuesday which broke finer and found all on deck enjoying a brilliant sun and eager to catch a glimpse of Finisterre.

Wednesday was similar to Tuesday and, by now, all day long after the morning parades the sound of "who'll have a card?" "Top of the ship," "Blind fifty" fell on the ears of those who lazed with books or peered thro' glasses wondering whether a headland was St. Vincent or Trafalgar. That night we retired knowing that the following morn would reveal England's first outpost of Empire—Gibraltar.

The Rock.

Early on Thursday, 27th, we sighted Gibraltar and steamed slowly into the inner harbour, tying up alongside. There were not many British men of war in the harbour and the only battleship was the Utah of the United States Navy.

Permission to go ashore having been granted as many as possible fell in on the wharf at 9.45 for an hour's much appreciated route march under Major Gould, for which a guide was provided.

Gibraltar is in some ways the gateway to the East, and the strange architecture, the vivid splashes of colour, both on the houses and of the masses of flowers, the fortifications (dragging a 9.2s gun half way up the Rock be quite a pleasant little "before breakfast" fatigue,) and the quaint dresses were novel to most of us.

Two officers braved the ascent to the top of the Rock and from the Naval Signal Station, they had a glorious view and came away with a sense of superiority over the other less energetic individuals who had not aspired to such feats of mountaineering.

The Town itself is most interesting, but it is probable that after quite a short stay one would feel very cramped, and there did not appear to be any extensive facilities for recreation for the troops.

The best story we heard in connection with our visit to Gibraltar was of a certain officer "of high rank" and possessed of a great thirst for information who, on his way through the town, passed through a massive and ancient gateway. Ever anxious to improve his knowledge he turned to some official standing by and said "Ah! and what is this?"—Gibraltar, Sir!

As we steamed out, we passed the American Flagship, the "Utah," and noticed that their band was drawn up and that their ships company was fallen in on deck. Jumping to the conclusion that this was meant as a graceful and couteous send off for us, we, eager to reciprocate, following Thos. Cook's stentorian lead, gave three hearty cheers, which were received in stony silence. We were somewhat relieved to see, on closer examination, that the reason for this silence was not that our vocal efforts were un-appreciated, but that our late Allies could not respond, however much they might have desired to do so, as they were fallen in for the departure of their Admiral.

The Mediterranean.

Leaving Gibraltar behind us we spent the rest of Thursday examing the coast of Spain on one side and of Africa on the other. A Spanish War-ship brought to mind that Mellilla was not very far away and that, even then, 150 aeroplanes and 30,000 troops were after that arch-brigand Raisuli.

Friday 28th was a day full of incident. Sports began with an inter-deck tug-of-war competition, which was won, amidst great excitement by a Buffs' Team. all from "C" Coy who pulled over a team of stalwart Gunners. Mention must be made, too, of the strenuous pull between the officers of The Buffs and the W.Os. of the ship. The officers won after a good pull, but had the more favourable deck.

During the afternoon a cricket match was played between a team of senior officers and a team of Captains and Subalterns, resulting in a win for the latter.

The day was concluded with a concert. Mr. Kimm had searched the ship for talent outside the regiment and a most enjoyable hour was spent, the contributors to the programme being Col. Niven, R.G.A. and Mrs. Niven, Rev. Chadwick, C.F., Lt. Kimm, Sgt. Burt, L/c. Meakin, Bdm. Moss, S.Sgt. Stafford, R.A.M.C. and two or three others, all of whom with Mr. Elvin and the Band put up a jolly good show.

Saturday, 29th, was a perfectly delightful day, as were all the days in the Mediterranean. Sunday gave us another Service and a most excellent discourse from the Padre. This day (Sunday) found us in the eliminating rounds of "Slinging the Monkey," "Cock-fighting" and "Are you there" in which competition every deck had to produce two finalists.

Many were interested this day in the coast of Africa, very close to which we had sailed all day. Binoculars assisted us to examine Biserta, an important French Port in Tunisia; and late in the day Cape Bon loomed large and we lost sight of it at nightfall, the last piece of Africa we saw.

Malta.

The distant view of Malta from the sea is not exactly a pleasing one. The island appears bleak and uninviting and one can see few signs of greenery, though the terraced slopes of the hills show that there is some form or other of cultivation. But a close view, on coming into the main harbour made us change our first opinions of the island. The harbour, consisting of one long narrow main inlet with four smaller side inlets, is surrounded almost completely by sheer sandstone cliffs rapped with massive and in many cases, very ancient fortifications, which still look almost impregnable.

From the ship their appears to be one vast city stretching inland as far as one can see. Actually there are two towns, Valetta and Floriana on the North East side of the harbour, and several more towns closely adjoining one another all round the other side.

As soon as our ship had dropped anchor, it was surrounded by a crowd of row boats, selling fruit, posteards, gaudy coloured cloths and all the usual sort of junk found in such ports. Far more amusing were the small shivering boys diving for silver coins, but they made it look too easy and their profit was not great.

A trip ashore and round the city of Valetta, which is the main centre of importance on the island, was full of interest. On landing we were taken up to the level of the city by a lift, a perpendicular rise of a small matter of 200 feet—we tried not to think what would happen if the lift cable broke! At the top we found a pleasantly shady garden and a most wonderful view. Standing on the old walls we looked far away down to the harbour below, with its bright blue water dotted with grey warships and boats of all shapes and sizes. From above too, we could see all sorts of craft tucked away in odd corners of the curious offshoots from the main harbour. Then looking farther afield, was town after town stretching into the distance, each with the domes —they are not really towers—of its churches standing out high above the houses.

Immediately one enters the actual city one sees on all sides relics of the occupations of the island by the Knights of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem, this order was formed by Knights from France, Portugal, and Italy mainly but with men of noble birth from other Roman Catholic countries as well, to withstand the advance of the Turks against Christian city.

In the first quarter of the 16th century, the Knights, after being driven out of their stronghold on Rhoda Island, took up their stand on Malta in 1530, from which date till 1798, when Napoleon Bonaparte expelled the Order from the island, they successfully held back the Turks. During their occupation this great Order, constructed strong fortifications everywhere and these form the foundation of most of the present defences. Each nationality or "language" of the Order built for its headquarters a magnificent "anberge," where its knights lived. These buildings are now used as public offices, etc., the "palace" of the Grand Master of the Order now being the Governors' Palace. There are also many other fine buildings in Valetta, such as the old Public Library, Museum, and Theatre and many interesting churches, each language of the Order of St. John having had its own church.

The more modern part of the city is both interesting and picturesque, with its narrow side streets, all dead straight though very much of the switch back variety, as the city is one of many levels. On either side of the streets are tall houses, with overhanging balconied windows, and signs in all sorts of outlandish languages stuck out. The houses are far from beautiful, but a glimpse down one of these side streets is very pleasing when one is new to such places. The local inhabitants are not a prepossessing lot and they speak a strange sort of language—but perhaps they have got nice souls to make up for it!

Time being limited, we did not see very much of the town and had to return to the ship rather early. Then off again eastwards towards the Aegean Sea.

Towards the East.

Having landed several officers and men and all our ladies but one, we took on a few passengers and headed once more for the East. Many were the discussions as to the possibility of coming back to Malta should the Allies evacuate Constantinople, and altogether it was hoped that such would be the case. At least our wives and children would be with us there.

Tuesday, May 2nd, saw the finals of our Ship Sports in which Bdm. Stander and Dr. Baker distinguished themselves by winning the prize for "Are you there." "Apple-bobbing" claimed the attention of several, and one very small Buff nearly drowned himself, so determined was he to have an apple.

The blue-ness of the Mediterranean was by now most marked and an ever growing moon was enchancing the pleasure of the Eastern night at sea.

We awoke next morning to find we had passed Cape Matapan in Greece during the early morn, but Greece was still in sight and we had entered the Ægean Sea. From now to the end of our journey we were rarely out of sight of land, for sailing through the Zea and Doro Channels there was always some island of the Archipelago to turn our glasses upon.

Wednesday passed as did Tuesday, but with the added excitement that next morning would bring us in sight of the all-hallowed peninsula of Gallipoli and we should sail up the famous Dardanelles.

Gallipoli and The Dardanelles.

On the morning of the 4th an early call brought everyone in varying amounts of Dress on deck to see our entry into the Dardanelles. The sun was well up and the light good and we could see quite clearly the main features of the Helles landing and the operations at the foot of Gallipoli Peninsula.

All who knew anything about the campaign had their say, maps were produced, and the information passed round the decks. With the aid of glasses the many of us who had only a hazy idea of it seemed to get a good picture of what the show must have been like. The general impression was that the Peninsula was more extensive and possessed more room for manoeuvre than most had imagined. Nobody, however, seemed to have over-estimated, in his mind's eye previously, the extreme difficulties of the nature of the country to a force attempting to land.

The hills which so well command the shores, looked sufficiently impregnable to us sailing by at a distauce. How much more of a brick wall must they have seemed to those actually up against them? There was sufficient of the wreckage on the beaches to make it unmistakably as a war zone while cemeteries, trenches and shell holes were also visible in places. On turning our thoughts to the Navy we agreed that Commander Holbrook who wormed his way with a submarine right through the straits well deserved his V.C.

About breakfast time we reached Chanak on the Asiatic side where we saw some of our Indian troops. A French Official boarded us but did not detain us more than a few minutes.

Later, on the other side again we passed the town of Gallipoli, which looked more Greek than Turkish, and where we saw the French flag flying over the Barracks.

After a few more hours sailing through the Straits we found ourselves in the Sea of Marmora, through which we plodded towards our destination.

Before we take our readers into Constantinople we must thank the Band and Drums who played sweet music to us almost every day of our journey. The Band played, too, for three dances on the promenade deck for the 1st Class passengers. There were never many ladies to dance with, but several subalterns 'rose' to the occasion and made quite excellent partners, while the Purser seized these opportunities of reducing his weight!

We shall remember the kindness and attention of the ship's staff, amongst whom Mr. Ray, the Chief Officer, was foremost in his efforts to make our journey fairly cheery.

Constantinople.

Just as the light was failing on the evening of the twelfth day, those of us up in the forecastle could see the glow of a great city in the distance and soon could pick up the individual lights of that part of Constantinople we have now learnt to call Stamboul. Slowly up to the mouth of the Bosphorus, the number of lights apparently increasing every moment we soon realized that Constantinople must be a huge town. We dropped anchor for the night and settled down prepared for a view of the buildings in the morning.

Those of us who managed to creep up and see the sun rise saw Constantinople perhaps at its best. It seemed like a mass of tall minarets, white mosques and big stone buildings, all the intervening places being filled with wooden houses which explain the frequency of fires. As we looked out from the other side of the ship we noticed the much greener city—Scutan—which we soon found out was part of Asia, so on our trip at the Government's expense we have been introduced to Europe, Africa and Asia—not bad for our first voyage. Ahead of us we saw the Bosphorus even narrower than the Dardanelles—noted for its dangerous currents and beautiful scenery.

While we were admiring these sights—for we have since realized Constantinople is far more beautiful from the sea than from within—we were surprised to hear our regimental march coming from a khaki covered tug—it was the Loyals—whom we were relieving going down to their new station at Chanak on the Dardanelles.

Timed to move at seven—but late as is the custom in this country, we picked up our anchor towards eight and, after several difficult manoeuvres, tied up alongside the wharf at Base Headquarters which used to be the Turkish Customs House for European Goods, a massive stone building but only allowing a very narrow space for unloading passengers and stores, so narrow that it took the sleepy looking Turks three attempts before they could put up a gangway to allow anybody off the boat, and then it was at such an angle one nearly slid down.

While looking over the side of the ship waiting for our turn to disembark we noticed the arbitary manner

(Continued on next page.)

The 1st Battalion—*continued.*

in which the local police pushed people about, they seem to have absolute authority. When we started to get the baggage out, we were astounded how the Turk by no means large himself, managed to carry tremendous boxes on his back. The usual load seemed to be six full kitbags and as far as one could see the only thing one man refused to move by himself was a piano.

The baggy trousers and fez all made them look exactly like the Turks in photos we have seen in the newspapers and at the pictures. We were surprised at the crowds of people dressed in ordinary mufti with straw hats and caps, but we soon realized the greater portion of the trade is done by Dagoes.

Towards the middle of the afternoon we were moved on lighters up to Ortakem, where we landed on a stone landing place outside a big mosque which we were able to see close up and note its two huge minarets. While we were disembarking the band played attracting a large crowd and perhaps made a good trade for the cafe where everybody was sitting outside, some smoking hubbly-bubbly pipes, others playing a queer game with dice. Then off we started up to our Resting place, such a hill, reminded one of the old days of '05 and '06 when we used to toil up the hills to barracks at Dover.

And a Later Impression.

Seen from the sea, Constantinople is disappointing, but, the many minarets give it a picturesque appearance. It is a confused heap of mud coloured wooden houses interspersed with stone and plaster ones, generally dilapidated, which look like tenement dwellings. This applies chiefly to the Pera side. On the Stamboul side of the Golden Horn the squalid dwellings are hidden by trees and the Scraglis, St. Sophia and other Mosques stand up out of the greenery and are really picturesque. I am told, however, that the streets there are, in reality, far dirtier and more squalid than in Pera.

From our suburb, about three miles from the centre of things, I visited the town yesterday. The tramway took us in and we then wandered about down the main street, The Grand Rue de Pera. This is like a back street in Paris, very crowded, and narrow, and consists of shops, chiefly small poky little places. The crowd consists largely of Russians, Yankee Sailors, Greeks, Turks, and Dagos who appear fat and well fed, though I don't know how they do it. The Turks are by far the most respectable looking, even when clothed in rags. The dirt of the people is beyond description and the stenches only beaten by Canton.

Everything strikes one as shoddy and *kutcha*. The actual site of the barracks is good, about three quarters of a mile up a steep hill from the Bosphorous, which we overlook. We get a fine panorama, but too much round the corner to see much of the shipping three miles lower down. The Adriatic side looks more pleasing, there being not so many of these wooden hovels.

Roads are almost non-existent and, such as there are, pot-holed beyond the imagination of any European. (*Except one who resides at Canterbury. Ed.*) The Barracks are some old Turkish barracks built on three sides of a square with a wooden mosque in the centre of the middle part. The Barracks overflow into huts and tin bungalows outside. The Officers' Mess is outside and in an old cemetery, which is in a state of collapse. The builders have utilised a good deal of the marble slabs to make the steps, etc., of the barracks! They appear to have scant respect for the departed. Within in a stone's throw in one or two low buildings are some Turkish infantry, so here we lie cheek by jowl with our enemy without a vestige of protection and the barracks accessible almost anywhere. There is not a stick of furniture in Mess or quarters and yet Field allowance is refused!

The nearest football ground for the men is *twenty-five* minutes walk. The polo ground is *fifteen miles* away. Golf *two miles* and the tennis courts *three miles*. However, we must try and get a move and make things better....

The Sultan's palace is close to the barracks; a white rambling affair among the trees with *Tin* roof! so Turkish!

MERCURY.

Sidelights on the Voyage.

Picture a subaltern who sailed from England on 22nd April and went ashore at Gibralter on 27th April—a Thursday. See now, in a shop window a newspaper, price one penny dated Friday. Imagine what the subaltern said, when having paid 3d. for the paper, he found that he had read it at Shorncliffe a week before.

But what do you think of it?

Next see a whale sporting off the coast of Portugal and a crowd of Buffs leaning on the port taffrail with a curiosity not entirely devoid of humour.

Pte. A. —"What sort of fish is that, Bill?
Pte. B. —"Dontcherknow? Why its a blooming 'addick."
Officer of the watch: "What is your duty in case of fire?"
Sentry: "Tell the Captain on the bridge."
Officer: "Ha! ha! Supposing he is not on the bridge."
Sentry: "Tell the Orderly Sergeant!!!"

We Should Like to Know:—

Was the flapper interested in Education?
Why people sleep with their mouths open?
Will some of their photographs be published in "The Dragon?"
Was not our young Captain clever in his snapping?
Was he not also swift at snapping up other opportunities of somewhat different complexion?
Does Dartmoor produce good cricketers?
Can a "no-ball" also be a "wide?"
Perhaps Robin will reply?
Did the Buffs enjoy their herrings the first day out from Southampton?
If it was not a sad sad story of "return whence thou came?"
Why the sudden interest in the French language?
What relation has their interest to Maxims?
Why the Sergeant was out after midnight?
Was the motor-car really so slow?
Was it not a signal excuse?

"B" Company.

Most of the Company were seasick on the first two days, but after getting through the Bay, everyone thought it was like sailing on the Serpentine. We had heaps of sport after leaving Gib., and although we produced no winners we had a good run in the tug-of-war.

Our present home was once a Turkish Barracks. It has the appearance of being the stables and yard of some squire's house. But still we hope to be comfortable and feel sure we shall enjoy Constantinople. At present we are busy getting straight, and, moreover, getting ready for a G.O.C.'s inspection—already!

It was curious that the padded cells on the "Huntsend" were allotted to the C.Q.M.-Sgts. to be used as an office. Very curious, Somebody said it was the proper..... No! Pay-day approacheth!

We are looking forward to the arrival of Lts. Brown and Gem, who with Messrs. Milton, D'Arcy Symonds and Spear are following us out on the "Derbyshire" with the Irish Guards.

We wish the W.O.'s, N.C.O.'s and men who left us at Shorncliffe for The Depot the best of luck in the future.

"C" Company.

Having arrived at Yildiz a *trifle uphill* from Constantinople, we are now endeavouring to shake the Sea effects from our cloths, etc., and get settled down in barracks perhaps, not to our taste. Of course, when we get things going, and the first C.O.'s Inspection over, all may be well, though at present we are very busy dodging our Orderly Sergeant (Footo-Kut), but we hope its through not having drawn High-Hats yet, for the rain we experienced the first two days didn't seem to have the necessary affect.

I would like to mention one or two things about the voyage for we are enduring hardships owing to four or five Messes (No. 1 Lower Decks) knives and forks being dumped overboard by our careful Mess Orderlies. Rumour has it that the Senior of No. 9 Mess saved his own, but whether it was found in the belly of the fish consumed aboard, or whether the Jews of the deep made a deal with the B. Swain, has not yet been ascertained.

Gourger Cribben obliged with his usual brightness before entering the Dardenelles, when looking through Port-Hole he was asked if land was in sight? "No Mate, only a few mountains" I see he is now employed in mess-room, no wonder we had no spuds for dinner to-day; no doubt his townies did well.

No. 1 Lower Deck consisting of C Company won the Final of the Tug-of-War in the best of three pulls, after beating the Sergeants in the Semi-Final with one pull lasting 12½ minutes, I must say high praise is due to our Coach, but by all accounts I am afraid Sport is going to lack in this Station owing to space. We shall have to try indoor-Sports for there is plenty of room.

A. LARKIN, Cpl.

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The Buffs.

(With Acknowledgements to The Field.)

MOST famous of all perhaps, however, of the old commanders was the family of Vere, descendants of the old fighting stock of the Earls of Oxford. A portly book has been written of this famous fighting family, but Fortescue's short account must here suffice.

He tells us that the seventh Earl had fought with the Black Prince at Crecy and Poitiers, the twelfth with King Harry at Agincourt, and succeeding holders of the title had distinguished themselves on the Lancastrian side in the Wars of the Roses. Francis, grandson of the fifteenth Earl, was born about 1560, came to Holland with Leicester in 1585, and after brilliant service at the defence of Sluys and elsewhere, rose to be sergeant-major of infantry, a sure proof that he was not only a gallant man, but an adept in his profession. Finally, in August, 1589, he was appointed Sergeant major general of the Queen's forces in the Low Countries, where he was joined by his gallant brothers Horace and Robert, who worthily upheld the honour of the name.

Sir Robert Naunton wrote of him: "He was amongst the Queen's swordsmen inferior to none but superior to many. I find not that he came much to Court, for he was almost perpetually in the camp, but when he did no man had more of the Queen's favour and none less envied. The Queen, as she loved martial men, would court this gentleman as soon as he appeared in her presence, and surely he was a soldier of great worth. He commanded 30 years in the service of the States, and 20 years over the English in chief as the Queen's General."

The Battle of Nieuport.

Much of the old Elizabethan campaigns in the Netherlands took place over ground which has been the scene of many a bloody struggle in the present war, our opponents in those days of course being the Spaniards, and in the year 1600 the States General under the generalship of Prince Maurice resolved to carry war into the enemy's country. Ostend was to be the base of operations, and the idea was first to besiege Nieuport, and then attack Dunkirk, a hazardous expedition, but then as now civilians were able to over-rule military considerations.

There is not space here to describe the battle in full, so it must suffice to say that Maurice, whilst getting ready for the siege of Nieuport was surprised at the unexpected advance of the Spanish forces under the Archduke Albert, at a moment when he was ill prepared to receive such news. In the early stage of the fight, the Netherland forces met with disaster, and Vere had with his division practically to face the main body of the enemy, mustering 10,000 foot, 1600 horse, and six guns, on the sands of the seashore. Undaunted, however, he posted his men as skilfully as possible, and in the afternoon the attack began.

The Spanish cavalry were soon disposed of, but the infantry put up a far better fight, and "for a time the battle seems to have resolved itself into a furious contest for the possession of a single sandhill round which, as round the two-gun battery at Inkermann, both sides fought madly hand to hand, each alternately repelling and repelled, till at last this 'bloody morsel,' as Vere called it, was finally carried by the English." The Spanish commander made a determined effort to force his way through Vere's right, and when this was checked attacked the main position for the second time. Vainly did Vere beg for reinforcements, and his own men were falling fast, yet though he was struck by a musket ball and had another in the leg, he held his men together.

However, to quote the above-mentioned historian, "the expected reinforcements came not, and the English were slowly forced back, still in good order, and still showing their teeth, from the dunes on to the beach, the Spaniards following after them, but afraid to press the pursuit. As the English retired, Vere's horse was shot under him and fell, pinning him helpless to the ground. Three of his officers ran up and freed him, and mounted on the crupper behind one of them he continued calmly to direct the retreat."

A charge of cavalry, supported by a small body of infantry under Horace Vere swept the Spaniards back and another assault being disposed of the battle was won. "On the side of the States the loss fell almost wholly on the English. Of their captains eight were killed, and but two came out of the field unhurt; of the 1600 men 800 were killed and wounded. They with the Frisians had borne the brunt of the action, and Maurice gave them credit for it. So ended the fight of Nieuport, the dying struggle of the once famous Spanish soldier, and the first great day of the new English infantry."

Of the above-mentioned Horace, Lord Vere, it may be added that at the siege of Ostend he defended a post with great resolution, and on the following day heaps of dead men with scaling ladders, battle axes, spades, and hatchets in great numbers were found at the foot of the sand hill which had been assaulted. Of other commanders of this company, the names of Sir Charles Morgan, Henry, Robert, and Aubrey, Earls of Oxford, and John Cromwell, a relative of the great Protector, may also be mentioned.

In the Dutch Service.

The old name of the 3rd was the Holland Regiment, for an obvious reason, but Capt. H. R. Knight, who started editing the historical records of the regiment, which, however, have not been completed, points out that there were four English and three Scottish regiments in the Dutch service until 1664. They were disbanded in the winter of that year, and the officers and men in the English regiments, which returned to this country, were in the spring of the following year formed into the Holland Regiment, now the Buffs, on the English establishment.

In the year 1585, when Elizabeth agreed to aid the Low Countries with a military force, the States sent Sir John Norris to England to aid in the embodying of the new levies into corps, and the Queen employed this distinguished officer in superintending the equipment and arming of the several companies. Each county furnished a proportion, the Livery Companies of the City of London also proviiding a limited number of men for this service, and those furnished by the City having been incorporated into the corps which is now the 3rd Regiment of Foot or the Buffs, it was afterwards the practice of this regiment to recruit within the precincts of the City, and to enjoy the exclusive privilege of marching through the City of London with drums beating and colours flying. (This will be referred to again.)

The men of this regiment were clothed in scarlet coats, and defended by armour on the head, body, and limbs. The several companies were composed of harquebusiers, musketeers, archers, pikemen, and halberdiers, and each company had a colour which was called an ensign.

In 1596, while the Lord Mayor and aldermen were hearing a sermon at Paul's Cross, they received a letter from the Queen ordering them to furnish 1000 men for immediate service. They left their devotions and exerted themselves with so much diligence that they had the number completed by eight o'clock that same evening, armed and ready to march early next morning. They were destined to reinforce the French garrison besieged by the Spaniards in Calais, but the order being countermanded the same afternoon, the little corps was disbanded within a few hours of its formation.

(To be continued).

The 2nd Battalion.

LIEUT.-COL W. H. Trevor, D.S.O. having gone home on leave, Brevet. Lieut.-Col. Bright is now commanding. We are now settled down in our new home, and every one seems to like it; anyway, it is "better than Mespot." During the last month we have been busy repairing the shark-proof bathing pool near barracks, and this should soon be ready now.

The Harris Shield Football is due to start very shortly, but the teams will be rather different from last year, as we lost several very useful players amongst the 3-year men.

The officers of the Battalion played Hockey against the Eastern Telegraph Coy. on April 21st, and after a fast game won by 2—0.

The following officers played:— Capt. Backhouse, Lt. King, Lt. Rowe, Capt. Rice, Lt. Penlington, Capt. Hamilton, Lt. Hoare, Capt. Howe, Lt. Cartwright, Lt. Listey and Lt. Brooke.

HOCKEY.

The following games have been played during the month:—

D. Coy. *v.* D. Coy. 2/19th Punjabis .....5—2
D. Coy. *v.* 16th Pack Battery .....4—2
D. Coy. *v.* D. Coy. 2/19th Punjabis .....2—2

FOOTBALL.

And here are the results of the recent football matches

D. Coy. *v.* 16th Pack Battery .....0—2
B. Coy. *v.* 16th Pack Battery .....0—1
D. Coy. *v.* Gunners .....1—2
B. Coy. *v.* M.C.C. (Natives) .....2—5
D. Coy. *v.* M.C.C. .....4—0
D. Coy. *v.* A Coy. (Buffs). .....2—1

ADEN.—AN IMPRESSION.

The majority, perhaps, picture Aden as one of the most undesirable military stations of all; but, though hot, and consisting practically of a bare mass of desolated volcano rock, it is not nearly so bad as it is apt to be painted. Aden itself consists of three districts, and a little pen picture of each is given below.

Steamers Point.

This is the port for all mail passengers and merchant ships, is the chief European business centre, and is where a detachment of "The Buffs," the Royal Garrison Artillery and the Punjabis are stationed. The Barracks and the station General Hospital, consisting of a long two-storied building, are built upon the hills, from which a good view of the sea and land for many miles around can be obtained. All European's quarters and official buildings are on the east side of Steamer's Point. The Garrison includes a battalion each of British and Indian Infantry, the Aden cavalry and a company of Royal Air Force, who are stationed at "Khor Maksar on the Isthmus," about 10 miles from Steamers Point. The hottest months of the year are May and September, as they immediately follow the monsoon. The average rainfall for the year is very small, and the main water supply is dependent upon condensed sea water, which, at the time of writing, is very scarce. Outstanding places of interest are few. There is the Queen Victoria Memorial facing the sea and standing in the centre of the "Crescent" in the bazaar, which for a seaport of the importance of Aden is quite a small one, though from it almost any article can be bought. Every facility is given to all for indulging in sport and games. Football, cricket and hockey are often played, and as for swimming there is no better spot, and many enjoy a good game of water polo at the swimming baths. Fishing also is very popular, and many large fish, such as the shark and the tarpon, can be caught; so it is nothing unusual to see the men come home after eight or nine in the evening with a catch of from 30 to 40lbs., which makes a good breakfast for the next morning.

Crater.

The date of the volcanic eruption responsible for the "Crater" is not known. Here is to be found the chief native bazaar of Aden, as all merchandise from the interior finds its way to this centre. The Crater Barracks, which accommodate the Battalion Head-Quarters, and which are situated only about 20 yards from the sea, are far more comfortable and more strongly built than those at Steamers Point. There are, of course, married quarters both at Steamers Point and Crater, and all cannot be too grateful to General Paget for the fact that these are now occupied by the Buff married families. Unfortunately there is no hill station near Aden for the hot season, so we shall have to swelter through as well as we can; but, happily, there is not much disease—only a few cases of malaria, and of course a tendency to heat stroke. A place of great interest close by is the "Tawali Tanks." These lie at the foot of the hills just behind the bazaar, and about 20 minutes' walk from barracks; and it is surprising to know that these tanks, nine in all, accommodate no less than 20 million gallons of water, collected from the hills during the monsoon.

Jebel Sham-Shum.

This is the highest point in the neighbourhood, the elevation being 1,776 ft., and a signal station is to be found on its summit. To reach this station from Crater would take at least two hours of steady hill climbing, but the magnificent view from the top is a fitting reward for such an effort.

Maala.

Three miles from Steamers Point, and about the same distance from Crater is the native bazaar of Maala, composed of native quarters and store buildings. From here the Aden railway runs to another native village about 20 miles beyond in Arabia, passing *en route* Shakh Othman, where all the vegetables for the troops are grown. F. R. (Pte.)

THE SERGEANTS' MESS. (CRATER.)

Things in the mess have been going strong, and pastimes have been strenuous.

Thanks to the G.O.M. "Bandy" who went to no end of trouble, a tennis court has been obtained from the International Club, and a handicap is now in progress, the results of which will come along later. In the meantime several are doing great things in this. Ask "Tots?" Strange mutterings of "like Mdll. Lenglen isn't he" etc., being heard on the courts when he plays. He's it! with a capital I. Wimbledon beware 'Tots" is coming.

After a couple of practice dances, the Mess held their first Whist Drive and Dance on the 19th inst. and to say it was not a success would be going against it. For the evening, the gymnasium had been acquired and, under the care of C.Q.M.S. Ambrose, Sgts. Cornwell, Joy and Howard were most beautifully decorated, the mess shields and silver being in predominence with the Colours in the centre, this put the finishing touches to the spectacle.

Invitations were sent out to the members of the various departments and corps who form the Garrison. These turned up in storm, as also did our members from Steamers Point, so we had a great gathering.

The evening opened with a whist drive at 21.00 hours, nineteen tables being in play, a record some mentioned for Aden as one rarely sees more than a dozen. "Tots" C.Q.M.S. Ambrose carried out the duties of M.C., ably assisted by Sergt. Ricketts and Sgt. Wilkins. Sergt. Coaster managed to carry off second prize for the gents and Mrs. Webb the second for the ladies, while the boobies were carried off in triumph by C.S.M. Vincer and Mrs. Blackman.

Dancing commenced about 20.30 hours and was carried on until 02.30 hours next morning and was much enjoyed by all, the duties of M.C. was ably carried out by Pioneer Sergt. Goldfinch, ("Chick") assisted by Sergt. (M.G. Mk LI, X) Dennis. One of the great features of the evening was the pre-war dress of whites which the members of the mess have made. This really put the finishing touches to things and reminded one of the days long since departed.

At the dance it was noticed that Mr. Lister is still as enthusiastic as ever in his efforts to grow a moustache like that of R.Q.M.S. Ings; Mr. Lister commenced this great effort in Iraq but appears to be using the scissors too frequently to succeed in this, especially as I have since ascertained that the R.Q.M.S., has not shaved his upper lip since New Year's Eve 1903 as a parting vow to the new year in which he changed his civvies for the King's uniform. Captain Backhouse too, seems to have taken quite a fancy to the "Upper Lip," and poor old "Buster" has it that he also must cultivate one. It was also noticed that "C" Coy's Stocho had lost the length of his, has the "Axe" been round his way?

L. C. P.

The Sergeants' Mess. (Steamer's Point)

Steamers Point! —if you are round this way you will find a happy Band of—well not exactly Pilgrims, but approaching that, as nearly all are "Tac" wallahs (anyone would think the Battalion was going home) judging by the bar takings.

Two Companies are here, "A" and "C" and all have settled down to things.

On entering the Mess on our arrival one was struck by the venerable appearance of the Caterer, "King Fez," who had done his best to start the Mess, prior to our arrival. The number of dining members averages about 14, and the Menus are excellent.

C.S.M. Vincer is Det. S.M., and Sgt. MacMahon Det. Qr.-Mr.-Sgt, the latter being busy at present with his army of Dhobies, Cooks, Bearers, etc., seeing "Who's who and What's What."

The R.S.M. gave us a look up recently from Crater. He was rather husky having just finished putting the Draft through a "remedial course."

We have a Water Polo team in course of construction and hope soon to fix the Crater up with a game.

Sergeant Dr. O'Dell paid us a visit on Sunday and was endeavouring to obtain some flowers to place on the grave of Drummer Stevens' Father who is buried at the Crater. Three of our members are on the sick list at present, Sgts. Warner, Petley and Ross, but all are on the road to getting fit.

I hear Sgt. Mannering (King Fez) on his arrival at Crater, seriously thought that the heat was having a bad effect on Members there, as they addressed him as "Old King Fez." He said "who is this 'ere !! ** ??—Fez, what have you got on over here,nother Tomato Season?" in fact he went right off at the deep end, causing some fun.

Dress—"Shirt Sleeves"—and its appreciated too, as it is getting hotter each day, though here at Steamers' Point one gets the breeze. Talking about Breeze, there's one floating around now, the R.S.M. is taking a Busman's Holiday by paying us a visit. This will mean the "Staff Wallahs" exercising muscles not usually employed in carrying out their *arduous* duties.

A good compliment of our members paid a visit to Crater on Wednesday and thoroughly enjoyed the Whist Drive and Dance given by the Sgts. Mess, when an echo of pre-war days was found in the combination of Colours, the Officers in White Shell Jackets, W.Os., and Sgts., White with red sashes, and last but not least the Ladies in all their spendour.

Sgt. Hollis has taken over the duties of Caterer from "King Fez" on the latter's departure to the Crater.

C.S.M. Cook is going strong as rowing coach and puts the boys through it. The G.O.C. has kindly lent his boat to the troops, a privilege which is greatly appreciated.

Things We Should Like To Know.

Who was the Officer who in answer to a remark by the O.C. that the parade appeared weak said, "the C.Q.M. Sgts. are not on parade?"

Who was the Officer, who on C.Os., inspection of institutes at the Crater, bolted through an alley way to seek refuge in a barrack room, and why he wished to "Dodge the Column?"

Whether Sgt. Mannering (Fusul) has started perspiring yet at the Crater?

Before closing these notes all members wish Lt.-Col. Trevor the happiest of leaves, and the best of luck go with him. And to the 1st. Battalion at Constantinople we send the very best. Then, I must not forget to give the Editor his tonic, so here goes (Conversation overheard in the Mess.)

"Got a *Dragon* to spare?"—"yes"—"thanks, gets better every month, does'nt it?" A. B. 70.

Corporals' Outing to Sheik Othman.

The Commanding Officer kindly gave his sanction for the Corporals to have a days outing to Sheik Othman; so a committee was formed to make all arrangements.

The committee was as under:—

Corporal Coleman, Cpl. Booth, L/c Beale, Cpl. Faulkner, L/c. Cleary, Cpl. Crane.

The day selected was on Easter Sunday, April 16th. Lorries, (with seats in), "not coalcarts," were sent to fetch the Corporals from Steamer Point and Crater and all met at the Gardens at Sheik at about 15.00 hours. The Adjutant and R.S.M. kindly took some of the Corporals out in their taxis and some others, such as the "Old Bean" sported taxis, bounty having been paid out and having bags of pice. Games of all kinds were soon in full swing such as tennis, cricket, football, quoits, rings, treasure hunt, comic billiards. The great event of the afternoon was a tug-o'-war between Corporals at Crater against Cpls. of Steamer Point Detachment. It was one all over pull in which Steamer Point Detachment were victorious. Ding Dong Bell who recently joined us from the 1st Battalion gave an exhibition game of tennis. Unfortunately, I think he forgot himself and thought he was playing cricket, anyway, I do not think more than four balls are missing. Tea was served at about 16.30 hours comprising of egg sandwiches, shrimps and iced cake. Lt.-Col. Bright and Mrs. Bright arrived for tea and the Adjutant and Captain Rice were also present.

After Tea, the R.S.M. spoke on behalf of the Corporals what a great pleasure it was to have the C.O. and Mrs. Bright with them. Three cheers were given and a roar for tiger. The C.O. thanked the Corporals for their kind invitation and said he hoped we had all had a good time and hoped that we should have many more.

An open air whist drive was then started and strange to say, practically everybody had left their pencils behind. Fancy N.C.O. without pencils and notebooks. Still we nanaged to get through with it alright.

We started back about 18.30 hours and the members of the Dido Club finished the evening in excellent style in their respective messes and we were all thankful that it was a holiday next day. Everybody was of the opinion that we had had a very enjoyable outing, the success of which was entirely due to the Committee who went out early and got everything fixed up beforehand. They also worked hard all the day and did not have much time for enjoyment and to them we render hearty thanks.

I do not know if the members of the Dido Club have decided to turn over a new leaf but Nazzani and Ding Dong were seen to be drinking pops dinner time. I wonder how long it will last; not long I'm thinking.

The Depot's Veterans.

WE were of course, very glad to accept the challenge thrown out in the February issue by the veterans of the Sergeants' Mess of the 2nd Battalion, and after examination of inventory boards and much delving in musty ancient history, the Depot mess Statistician has succeeded in presenting to the wondering and admiring gaze of *The Dragon's* readers the :—

Sergeants' Mess Service Record up to November, 1921.

Rank.	Name.	Years.	Months.
R.S.M.	Dare	18	0
R.Q.M.S.	Andrews ...	23	9
C.S.M.	Couchman ...	14	7
,,	Mason	19	6
,,	Adams	18	10
,,	Verlander ...	22	3
,,	Pigott	23	1
,,	Bones	14	5
Sgt.-Dr.	Clayton	23	2
C.Q.M.S.	Ransley	7	0
,,	Spearpoint ...	20	0
,,	Bridgland ...	15	5
,,	Jones	15	3
Sgt.	Beasley	8	10
,,	Jones	14	3
,,	Maillard	7	2
,,	Sedgwick	19	1
,,	Morgan	11	11
,,	Hook	25	10
,,	Legge	18	7
,,	Marchant	19	3
,,	Potter	13	6
,,	Wren	20	5
,,	Brooker	15	0
,,	Cox	14	5
,,	Osborne	11	8
	Total ...	435	2
	Average	16	8

Q.M.S. Walbank, R.A.P.C., attached 24 yrs., 6 months.
S.Q.M.S. Deering, R.A.P.C., attached. 42 years

It should be partcularly noted that "Dizzy Burton" was not called in to assist the total, and that all those tucked away near the R.E. Yard were not "untucked" except in cases where they were actually serving on the Depot strength in November 1921. In short, there's no "wangling."

The fellow who has so successfully wrestled with this mighty task has now applied for a month's leave, being somewhat run down.

(In regard to the above, it will be remembered that the average service of the members of the Sergeants' Mess, 2nd Battalion worked out at 12 years 10 months, and that of the 1st Battalion 14 years 5 months. Ed.]

The Axe and Canterbury.

THE threat having been made of moving the Buffs Depot to Maidstone, (in all probability, a Kite flown to test public feeling) a few particulars as to the connection and close relationship between the Buffs, the County of East Kent and Canterbury will be of general interest.

It was in the year 1782, that H.M. King George III. directed the Regiment to assume the title of "East Kent," and to cultivate a connection with that division of the County, which so happily continues to the present day, and as to how close that relationship is, is best proved by the deep resentment recently shown throughout the County, and within the Regiment itself, that this should in any way be disturbed.

Now although this relationship was initiated in 1782, no steps were taken at that time to set up a Regimental Depot within the County of East Kent itself, and the Depot system of that period, so far as can be gathered without having any Regimental Records to refer to, consisted of many makeshifts and temporary arrangements, with the result that recruits came for the greater part from the places the Battalion were quartered in.

Col. Moody, for instance, tells us that, just prior to his joining the Regiment in 1873, there was a Depot Battalion in Limerick resulting in nearly all the men in the Regiment at that time being Irishmen; and later we shall refer to an amusing story told us by Col. Dauglish relating to the time when, apparently, there was a makeshift Depot in Chatham.

It was in 1873 that the 45th Brigade Depot was started at Canterbury under Col. Kirby, (and whose successors, so Colonel Kelly tells us, were Colonels Stewart, Degacher, Hobson, Kerr, Kelly, and Hickson), and this was the Depot of The Buffs, and was also the centre responsible for the organization and administration of the East Kent Militia and East Kent Volunteers, neither of which became Buffs till 1881, the year which saw the whole army system changed, and in which old numbers were taken away, and strange Regiments linked together into one. Though this change in no way affected the Buffs, being one of te first 25 Regiments who already had second Battalions, these having been added about 1857 after the Crimea War.

So, we see that just on half a century has elapsed since, through the establishment of the Regimental Depot at Canterbury, the Buffs have become inseparably linked up with East Kent both in composition of its Battalions and in the pride which the people of East Kent have for the long and honourable traditions, and gallant services rendered by their sons at home and abraad, and in the gratitude and appreciation felt by the Regiment itself for the hospitality, generosity, and support always afforded it.

JUST ONE BUFF.

And, now, it only remains, to tell the story of Chatham, where existed at one time, a joint Depot of several Regiments including the Buffs. At one morning parade, the Buffs totalled 1 officer and 1 Private, and the officer asked, if, under the circumstances, he could dismiss. The Colonel said "No, certainly not," so the officer began to drill.

"Buff, Quick March," "Buff, About Turn," "Buff, Halt," and "Buff, As you were" resounded across the parade, until the Colonel got so sick of it that he roared "Dismiss, you Buff."

So, now we know exactly what happens under the system of "Joint Depots," and we suggest "Carry on The Buffs," to the authorities as being a much better proposal than one which seems to lend itself to ultimate "Dismissal"!

If you want to get into touch with an old comrade, send us full particulars and we will do our best to help you.

Colonels of the Buffs.

No. 10. John Selwyn, *Colonel of the Buffs*, 1711—1713.
No. 11. Archibald, Earl of Forfar, *Colonel of the Buffs*, 1713—1715.

JOHN Selwyn purchased the colonelcy of the Buffs from the Duke of Argyll and soon afterwards, at their head—some of them in their shirts and some half-dressed—distinguished himself in the night attack which the French made against the British at Douay on 12th July, 1711. The regiment was engaged the same year at Arleux and at the siege of Bouchain. The following spring negociations for a general peace were set on foot and the Buffs remained on garrison duty in Flanders. When the peace of Utrecht was signed, Major General Selwyn resigned the regiment and the colonelcy was conferred on Archibald, Earl of Forfar on the 14th April, 1713.

It was not for over a year afterwards, soon after the death of Queen Anne and the accession of George I., that the regiment returned to England and landed at the Tower wharf, London, on the 23rd August, 1714. They proceeded to Scotland by route march and thence to Ireland, and back again to England in the summer of 1715; only to be moved back to Scotland in the autumn where they were quartered at Stirling under command of their old colonel, the Duke of Argyll. Evidently in those days a regiment was moved about as unexpectedly and with as little consideration for the officers and men as is the case to-day.

At the battle of Dumblain, 13th November, 1715, the Buffs were on the right of the royal army and soon became sharply engaged. Their colonel (the Earl of Forfar) advanced "too far in the heat of the conflict, was wounded and taken prisoner." When the rebels found they could not carry him off, they inflicted seven wounds, and left him for dead; he was soon afterwards found among the killed and survived several days." Such treatment of their colonel would naturally make a deep impression on the regiment and it is not unlikely that when, after the battle of Culloden in 1746—some thirty years later—their colonel, George Howard, earned "everlasting execration" by his treatment of those to whom indemnity had been promised, he found the Buffs only too willing to put his harsh orders into execution. At any rate the author believes he is correct in saying that the Buffs have never been quartered in Scotland since that date.

F. W. T.

The Buffs Cricket Week.

BY MAJOR GUY LEE, D.S.O., M.C.

AS it is well to let everyone know in plenty of time the arrangements being made for The Buffs Cricket Week this year, the following are the fixtures already provided for.

Aug.	19.	Past *v.* Present.
"	21. 22.	Royal West Kent Regt. XI.
	23. 24.	Small Arms School, Hythe.
	25.	Sports' Day
	26.	East Kent Ramblers.

Lt.-Col. Reggie Friend will again skipper the Past Team, and all Past Buffs wishing to play should write to him as soon as possible, at:—

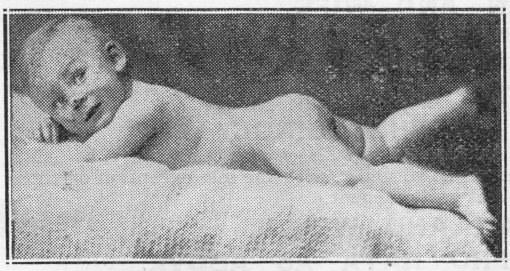
Bramling, Littlebourne, Kent.

The Depot will arrange to put up as many Past and Present who may care to turn up. Officers can be doubled up in Mess Quarters, and all other ranks will be well looked after if some of them won't object to the old and familiar Biscuits and Government sheets once again! The more that roll up the merrier we all shall be.

There will be further notices in the July and August issues of *The Dragon*.

The Ladies.

THIS month, I am indebted to Private and Mrs. Cook for the accompanying delightful picture of their little boy, Gerald Henry, born on the 12th July, 1921, and, already, so we hear, quite determined to became a Buff. All of which makes me wonder if,



GERALD HENRY COOK.

one of these days, some future Editor, of the *Dragon* will be able to publish a photograph of Gerald Henry, (by that time perhaps R.S.M. of his Battalion) reading this number of his Regimental Paper, and chuckling as he sees himself at the age of 10 months, reclining in its pages in the altogether!

OURSELVES AND THE BENEVOLENT FUND.

It is with much pleasure that I am able to publish the following received from the Hon. Sec. of the Benevolent Fund :—

Dear Madam,

I hope you will allow me to thank you and the ladies of the Regiment for the excellent way in which you have supported our Fund by the various knitting competitions etc. The sum of £7 2s. 0d. sent to the Benevolent Fund as the result of the various competitions in the Ladies' Page is very welcome.

My great hope, now that we have seen the success of these competitions, is that the ladies will continue to support the Fund, and I have a suggestion to make.

Would you ask the wife of every married Buff to send you 1/- for every baby under 3 years old (in her own possession!!)? If everyone were to respond to this there would be untold wealth pouring into our coffers!

Yours truly,
E. F. W. STRETTELL, Capt.,
Hon. Sec., Buffs Benevolent Fund.

Well, there it is. The Fund is opened herewith, but I have no intention of confining it to married Buffs! Why not, also, half-a-crown from every single Buff, of, shall we say, 25 years and over, as a penalty for his omission? I feel sure that Capt. Strettell only has to read this suggestion to head the list of "Single Buff" donations! And why not, indeed, donations from all and sundry who may care to give them?

So that's that, and now can anyone help me with one or more other suggestions as to how we, with this page, can best continue to help the Fund, *vide* the general hope expressed in Capt. Strettell's letter. The Editor tells me he will give 10/6 to the Benevolent Fund for the best suggestion received by him by the 18th inst., manuscript to be written on one side of the page only and not to exceed 400 words.

Now, I do hope I may have some response to this, as nothing has reached me as a result of my offer of last month of a prize of 10/6 for the best suggestion on "How to improve the Ladies Page," an offer which still holds good, except that, in this case also, the prize money will be paid over to The Benevolent Fund.

And, before passing to other matters, here is the details of how this page has so far been able to render assistance.

	£	s.	d.
Sale of Competition Articles	4	13	6
Prizes devoted to the Fund—			
Mrs. Stone	0	15	0
Mrs. McDermott	0	2	6
Donations—			
Mrs. H. Findlay	1	1	0
Mrs. Wellesley Miller	0	7	6
Mrs. S. Smith	0	2	6
Grand Total ...	£7	2	0

Surely we should not find much difficulty in doubling this, especially when we remember the excellent and much needed work the Fund is doing.

FROM A BUFF AND BRAWNY.

A "Buff and Brawny" from Aden writes as follows:

"Will you kindly ensure that, this dish (Dragon Pie) is served up once per month by :—

(1) Married Ladies to their respective Husbands.

(2) Spinsters to their prospective Partners.

If this is carried out, undisturbed Domestic Bliss will be the result."

DRAGON PIE.

SOUND ADVICE

on

HEALTH . UTILITY . ECONOMY.

(Dose to be taken once monthly).

A Dragon well done
Is a dish you can't beat,
You should buy half a dozen,
And give friends a treat.

Your digestion improves,
And your face wears a smile,
Like A "Tommy" in credit,
(You know the dial).

One does not need mustard,
Pepper or salt,
Its quite self contained,
So don't call a halt!

For sixpence a feed
Its cheap at the price,
With "Bones of Contention"
It goes down real nice.

So line up all Buffs
And each take your feed
Of Dragon—Its "More-ish"
Just what you need.

J. HUNT & SONS

Drapers, Men's Hosiers
House Furnishers

LARGE STOCKS OF
RELIABLE & HIGH CLASS GOODS
AT POPULAR PRICES

1—6 Mercery Lane, CANTERBURY

"THE DRAGON" SENSATIONAL INSURANCE OFFER.

Here we are! Here we are!! Here we are again!!!
Hallo! Hallo!! Hallo!!! Hallo!!!! Hallo!!!!! Well!!!!!!

NOTHING WHATEVER TO PAY.

The question which the World has been asking itself for the last two months is answered by

OUR NEW GIFT.

The Editor of *"The Dragon"* will pay (subject to the provisions hereinafter mentioned), to any registered subscriber to *"The Dragon,"* as from 0600 hours the day this number is published

£80 a WEEK to MAN AND WIFE
or *(shared appropriately)*
£79 13s. 6d. a WEEK TO WIFE and
6s. 6d. a WEEK TO MAN,
or **£40 to EITHER MAN OR WIFE SINGLY**

while they are rendered totally unable to follow their usual vocation as the direct result of injury by ANY ACCIDENT whatsoever, howsumever, whenever, whichever or nowornever, with the sole exception of those accidents for which compensation is already provided by the Maternity Benefit.

£40 a WEEK TO MAN AND WIFE
or **SHARED APPROPRIATELY PRO RATA AS ABOVE.**
or
£20 a WEEK TO EITHER MAN OR WIFE SINGLY

Up to 52 Years, should they be run down, broken down or otherwise disabled, or out of sorts as a result of contracting or otherwise getting or suffering from:—

Club-foot.
Pussyfoot.
Red Nose
And Fleas.
Yank Jaw.
*Lockjaw.**
Sting from
Busy Bees.
Axe-ache.
Back's ache.
Boredom
And Flies.
"Dragon" Bills
And Circulars.
Water from
The Skies.
Colds, Chills
Tailor's Bills
Acid in
The Bone.
Long Skirts.
Frayed Shirts.
Moving to
Maidstone.
Sunstroke.
Moonstroke.
Triplets
And Dumps.
Anthrax.
Income Tax.
Smallpox
And Mumps.
Hammer Toes.
Dear Clothes.
Crushed or
Broken Ribs.
Docked Pay
On Friday.
Sergeant Major's
Fibs.
No Work.
Hard Work.
Mary Pickford's
Plots.
Killjoy's Ban.
Broker's Man.
Coming out in
Spots.
Toothache.
Heartache.
Chickenpox
And Mope.
Jankering.
Hankering.
Typhus
And Dope.
Scabies.
Rabies.
Turmoil
And War.
Henpeck.
Wry Neck.
And Mother-
In-Law.
Back-fires.
Vampires.
Gum-boil
Or Sprain.
Frozen Pipes.
Loss of Stripes.
Water on
The Brain.

* *No further compensation if wife suffers.*

That is the Offer!!

BUT YOU MUST REGISTER NOW!!!

Have YOU signed yet?

Send this form to
The Editor *"The Dragon,"*
Depot The Buffs, Canterbury.

I wish to become a regular subscriber. Please register me as such.

Signature .....
Address .....
.....

P. O.
Cheque } .....enclosed.

Write in any old sort of letters you like, slongs you SEND THE DOUGH.

For rates of subscription see page 165.

Hand this form to the Sergt.-Instructor of any Territorial Drill Hall in East Kent.

To .....
Address .....
.....

Please obtain for me a copy of *The Dragon* monthly until further notice.

Signature .....
Address .....
.....

This wonderful offer represents a scale of compensation hitherto unapproached in generosity even by such publications as the *"Daily Excess," "Daily Wail," "Daily Chronic," "Jack Ox,"* or even the Post Office Guide.

SIMPLE, SWEEPING, and more than SUFFICIENT,

it will drive our rivals in Outer Darkness, Magpie Discussion, Inner Envy and Bullseye Rage.

No such offer has ever been made before, and never will be again.

Nothing now remains to be told except that these payments will be made without quibble, shuffling, hesitation, backsliding or questions of any kind for the risks mentioned, and for any you can think of in addition,

PROVIDED

1. **The reader becomes a Subscriber for at least One Year,** and
2. *The Dragon* **can afford to pay them.**

Mutt and Jeff.

The British Soldier.

IN a recent lecture on the British Soldier, the Hon. J. W. Fortescue said it was only within the last ten years that the British soldier had become part and parcel of the nation—had, in fact, attained his full stature. He was wondering, however, whether the soldier's time had not passed. There would, of course, be wars so long as human stupidity and passion continued, but war was going to be conducted in a very different fashion. The future of war lay in the air, and if people could fly over here and drop poisonous bombs which would do away with a whole population he did not see why we should trouble to train men to fight each other at great expense and great sacrifice of time. He thought, however, that the British soldier would last his time, and if he survived it would be mainly as a policeman.

In the early times the point of being a soldier was to take other people's property without paying for it, and in the feudal times and up to the end of the sixteenth century trained men were not so necessary. In the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries every man was expected to come armed to the muster. Then firearms came in, and the business of the soldier became rather more complicated.

Nothing was known of the life of the soldier in the alehouse where they lodged before barracks were built, and that was not until the time of Pitt and the Peace of Amiens. He imagined the men lived chiefly on bread, cheese and bacon, but they could never have had any pocket-money, and in order to buy liquor they doubtless made away with their clothing and accoutrements. The colonel was the father of his regiment, and there was a record of one colonel who was so keen after gain that he clothed his men with the cast-off clothes of another regiment. Officers were also known to have shown on the muster-roll men who had no existence, drawn their pay and put it in their own pockets. The colonel was also allowed 2s. 6d. a day for a chaplain, but as often as not he pocketed the money and did without the chaplain. Officers were often very brutal, and altogether the soldier's life could not have been a very happy one.

King William restored the self-respect of the soldier to a certain extent, but the greater part of the credit belonged to Marlborough. It was curious, said Mr. Fortescue, that in the eighteenth century nearly all non-commissioned officers came from Scotland. He had never seen any treatise on the British Army by any foreign writer in which the N.C.O. was not very justly exalted, and the credit of that should go to Scotland. It was only lately that we had begun to dress the soldier sensibly and treat him more reasonably, and nowadays the officers shared every danger and trouble with the men. The whole discipline of the Army had been altered for the better, and the status of the soldier had been exalted accordingly. Mr. Fortescue concluded with a reference to the British soldier abroad, and quoted instances to show that despite the greatest dangers and privations he always kept his courage, and, above all, kept his good nature.

Thanks very much.

THE following is a further list of those who have very kindly brought their subscriptions to *The Dragon* for 1922 up to the old rate for officers, as suggested in our Christmas number :—

Major the Hon. G. Scarlett, Captain W. J. King, Captain J. C. Page, M.C., W. Franklin Beavan, Esq., J. V. Hitchcock, Esq., R. E. Page, Esq.

Homeward Bound!

ONLY those who have experienced it, can know what feeling is hidden behind these two words, and the emotions of the minds of those who have been away in distant lands for any considerable time.

We whom this story affects were no exception to the rule; in fact we were more inclined to add to the sentimental and emotional aspect of the phrase, as the latter period of our sojourn abroad was not spent under pleasant circumstances, as those who have experienced the trials and tribulations of Mesopotamia can endorse.

It was on the evening January 5th, 1922 that the first chord was struck, when we embarked on the River Boat, H.S.13, for the first stage of our journey Home.

We reached Basrah on the morning of January 7th, and stayed at the Combined Base Depot for eighteen days, where we had the record of being unbeaten at football.

On January 25th, we embarked on S.S. Barala for India. This trip no doubt appealed to those who thought they would like to see still more of the world, for the boat called at every port in the Persian Gulf on both the Persian and Arabian coasts. Bushire, Bahrein, Linga, Injum, Pesne, Bander-Abbas, and Muskat, were all visited in turn, and on February 2nd we reached Karachi. From there, via Mongol and Dui, we proceeded to Bombay and arrived there on February 6th, after a journey lasting twelve days.

The next morning saw us safely installed at Deolali, where we handed in our rifles for which we were not sorry. The next auspicious occasion was on Saturday 11th, which took the form of a pay parade. The rest of the days passed quietly but all too slowly and it was here that we suffered our first and only defeat at football at the hands of the Manchester Regiment.

At last the great and glorious day came. We were not exactly excited—our excitement being bottled up until we saw the shores of Blighty looming in the distance but we were at least happy to think that it was our last day in India, and that we were now really bound for home on the H.M.T. "Huntsgreen."

Except for the fact that the food was not of the best, the trip as far as Port Tewfik, at the southern end of the Suez Canal, was very pleasant and comfortable. This port was reached on March 16th and was our first stop since leaving Bombay.

On the following day we arrived at Port Said, when officers and W.O's were allowed on shore, and after spending eight hours coaling, we sailed out about 7 p.m.

For the next three days all went very well, but when within three days journey of Gibraltar the ship encountered heavy seas, with the result that we arrived at Gibralter on March 24th 12 hours late, and remained there for 2½ hours only.

The remainder of the journey was rather trying owing to cold and high seas, but a cheerful spirit dominated over everyone on board, especially when on March 29th we anchored in Southampton water with dear old Blighty at last in sight.

At 10.30 a.m., the next morning, we were divided into two parties, one for the Depot and the other for Shorncliffe, and, soon after mid-day, our train steamed out of Southampton with all eyes turned towards the dock to catch a last glimpse of the "Huntsgreen."

It is worth mentioning that The Buffs again made themselves conspicuous in the Sports held on Board. The Tug of war team which took first prize consisted of five Buffs out of eight, their names being Cpl. Cloke. Ptes. Boxall, Murray, Coomber and L/c. Lawry. Amongst the Boxers who distinguished themselves were Petford, winner of the Middleweights and Fowles, winner of the Bantans. Murphy, and Boxall, also gave good accounts of themselves and lost only to better men.

F. A. B,

Toiling and Broiling.

IN the spring nearly every man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of seeds! Every descendant of the Grand Old Gardener has at one time or another tried to follow this primary pursuit with varying results. Most of us get tired of gardening. Just now we don't appear to know what fatigue is, as witness the allotment holders after a strenuous days work digging and hoeing, and hoeing and digging, till long after dark. Good cultivation will make up for a lot of other drawbacks, and a few days of glorious sunshine makes us soon forget the bad days that have passed.

What a man needs in gardening, says Charles D. Warner the American Humorist, is a cast-iron back with a hinge in it. The hoe is an ingenious instrument calculated to call out a great deal of strength at a great disadvantage. If I were rich I think I would have my garden covered with an awning, so that it would be comfortable to work in. It might roll up and be removable as the great awning of the Coliseum was. Another good way to do, and probably not so expensive as the awning would be to have four persons of foreign birth carry a sort of canopy over you as you hoed. And there might be some person at the end of the row with some nice cool and refreshing drink.

Agriculture is still in a very barbarous stage. I hope to live yet to see the day when I can do my gardening, as tragedy is done, to slow music, and attended by some of the comforts I have named. Broad acres are a patent of nobility; and no man but feels more of a man in the world if he have a bit of ground that he can call his very own, however small it is on the surface it is four thousand miles deep, and that is a very handsome property.

The first pleasure about a garden in this latitude is that you never know when to set it going. If you want anything to come to maturity early you must start it in a hothouse. If you put it out early the chances are all in favour of getting it nipped with frost, for the thermometer will be 90 degrees one day and go below 32 degrees the night of the day following. And if you do set out plants, or sow seeds early you fret continually knowing that your vegetables will be late, and that while Jones has early peas you will be watching your slow-forming pods. This keeps you in a state of mind. When you have planted anything early you are doubtful whether to see it above ground or not. If a hot day comes you long to see the young plants, but when a cold north wind brings frost you tremble lest the seeds have burst their bands. Your spring is passed in anxious doubts and fears, which are usually realised, and so a great moral discipline is worked out for you.

A.H.B.

DRAGON BOUND VOLUMES.

Orders for binding The Dragon can be now placed with the Editor in accordance with one or other of the following alternatives—

THE THREE ALTERNATIVES.

1. **Where readers supply us with their own Dragons: 4/- post free.**
2. **Where the complete set of Dragons is supplied from our office 10/- post free.**
3. **Covers only, 2/6 post free**

NOTE.--We still have a few Bound Volumes of the 1921 Dragons for disposal.

The War History.

INTENDING purchasers of "The War History of the Buffs," are invited to register their names with Major F. W. Tomlinson, 2, Cavendish Square, W. 1, at their earliest convenience.

Pick of the Basket.

OUR PERSUASIVE SYSTEM.

DEAR SIR,

Your persuasive system deserves a response. Here goes for another six months of the *Dragon* to go on with. Please find 4/- P.O. within

Yours etc.,
PERCY GREEN,
(late Cpl. The Buffs).

United Service Club.

PAST AND PRESENT GOLF MATCH.

Dear Sir,

The suggestion in this month's *Dragon* for an Annual Golf Match between Past and Present Officers seems to me a good idea, and I hope that it will appeal to others and be taken up. I am not sure, though, that perhaps Canterbury Week might be found more convenient than Depot Week.

Yours etc.,
H. BRADLEY DYNE, Lt.-Col.

Dyvan,
Sevenoaks.

Dear Sir,

Your suggestion of a Past and Present Golf match is an excellent one, and perhaps one of the golf courses near Canterbury, were they approached, would offer us their hospitality. In any case I hope the match may take place.

Yours etc.,
PLUS FOURS.

FROM W. AFRICA.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter of 8th of March. I am afraid there has been rather a mix-up between my brother and myself. I am J. C. Page. He is R. E. Page. We were both in the 6th Battalion during the war; he afterwards went to Ireland. He is now an Assistant District Commissioner at Koforidua, Gold Coast, while I am the same here.

I have run across Hendin, late 1st Battalion, here several times, but not very lately. He is at Daru, the H.Q. of the S.L. Battalion W.A.F.F. We had a Regimental dinner of our own on the last occasion. The speeches we made to each other were, I suppose, merely silly, but the singing of "Old mother H.B." (as Sgt. Drummer Flyn used to call it) left nothing to be desired!

I hope to be home about the middle or end of July, and to get down for the cricket week.

Yours faithfully,
J. C. PAGE,
(Late Capt. and Adjutant, 6th Battalion The Buffs.)

PAST AND PRESENT ASSOCIATION.

Dear Sir,

In your May issue, I notice the Hon. Sec. of the Past and Present Association making an appeal for the home addresses of those Buffs who have recently left the service. This leads me to make the suggestion that a system might be introduced by which the home address of every man leaving the Regiment should be notified automatically by Battalions to the headquarters of the Past and Present Association at the Depot. And I would further suggest that no man be allowed to pass from the Regiment into civil life without having presented to him, at the actual time of his discharge, a pamphlet outlining the aims and objects of the Association, and without being asked to join then and there; and, that should he accept this invitation, which the majority would surely do, the means may be immediately at hand of his being enrolled as a member and of receiving his badge.

Yours etc.,
Veteri Frondescit Honore.

IN REPLY TO SEGUSS.

Dear Editor,

F. Seguss's letter in your May number was most interesting. I remember Seguss in B. Company. The rooks in the pie he served to the Marriner were shot by either Houblon, Fort, Reggie Friend or myself. We shared a rook "shoot" in the direction of Neveravon.

I wonder where Seguss was at Loos. He mentions seeing Col. Worthington and Colonel Neale of the Middlesex go down—they were a long way apart. Anyway I hope I may meet Seguss again soon, and tell him how my foot was not blown off though I had an almost miraculous escape.

Of the men of B. Company he mentions, Pick Griffiths was officers' Mess Sergeant in the 5th M.I. at Standerton, 1908 and I did'nt see him again till 27th September, 1915, when I met him as a C.Q.M.S. of the 8th Battalion looking for billets in Bethune. He seemed rather lost, as he'd just heard the poor 8th Battalion had been badly cut up at Loos. Brewster, Cousins, and Ruler were all in my section 5th M.I. Cousins was my servant for four years; there never was a nicer fellow. I think he was killed at Radingham with the 1st Battalion. I read of his death in the paper on the arrival of the Ultonia at Devonport, 23rd December, 1914. Dusty Ruler was with the Mechanical Transport during the War.

L/Cpl Marlow has changed his name. I met him in the officers' Mess Rest Camp, Sunningdown, Eastbourne, October 17th. He was doing Mess Sergeant and was so pleased to see me that, when my host ordered me a gin and bitters, he brought me a tumblerful of neat gin, having forgotten to add the water—Nuff said!

The other officer in the group must have been Philip Flower. He was the only other officer in B. Coy. in '04 to '05.

Yours,
J. V. R. JACKSON,
(Major).

Small Arms School,
Hythe,
Kent.

OUR ANNIVERSARY NUMBER.

Dear Sir,

If a short History of the Regiment would be of any use to you, I have two books I can lend you. One, a short one, drawn up by myself for the Tournament of 1895, and the other, a fuller one, by Capt. Knight for the presentation of Colours in 1906 in London.

Yours etc.,
W. E. R. KELLY,
Colonel.

[*The loan of these we have gladly accepted. Ed.*]

TO PAST AND PRESENT BUFFS.

THE Association of Past and Present Buffs is open to all those who are serving or have served in a Regular Battalion of the Buffs, and to all those who have served or are serving with a Service, Territorial, or Special Reserve Battalion.

If you are not already a member, why not become one now?

Terms of Membership.

Officers ...	...	2/6 *per annum.*
Other Ranks	...	2/6 *first year*, 1/- *subsequent year.*

Life Membership.

Officers ...	...	£2 2 0
Other Ranks ...	...	£1 1 0

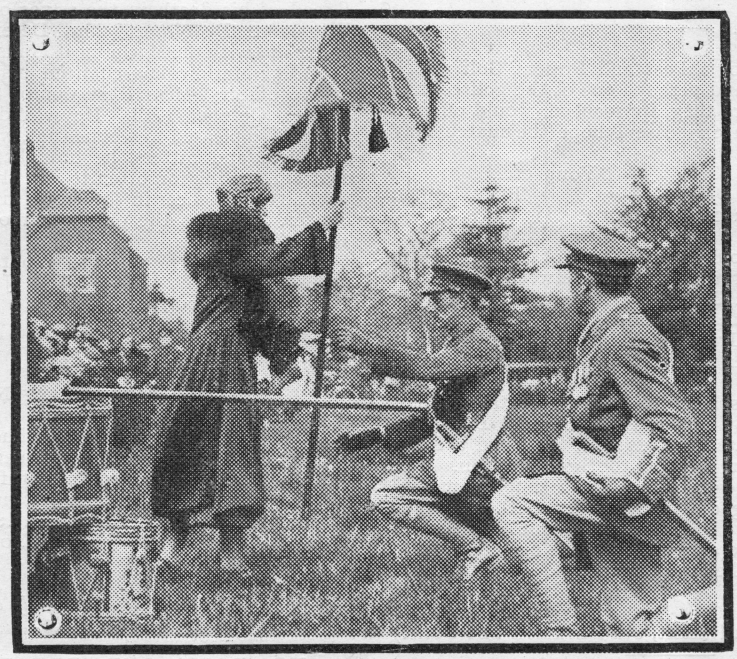
All correspondence to The Hon. Sec., the Association of Past and Present Buffs, Depot The Buffs, Canterbury.

Presentation of 5th Buffs Colours at Cranbrook.

WITH impressive ceremonial, the colours of the 5th (Weald of Kent) Battalion the Buffs were presented at Cranbrook, on Saturday, 13th May, by the Marchioness Camden, wife of the Lord Lieutenant of Kent, who accompanied her, and afterwards laid up in St. Dunstan's Parish Church. Glorious weather favoured the ceremony, which was witnessed by large numbers of the inhabitants.

Headed by the band of the 4th Battalion from Canterbury, the Company, mustering over 100 strong, and under the command of Captain T. B. Cheeseman, marched through beflagged streets to the School Football Ground, near Baker's Cross, where, on a platform over which a flagpost was erected, stood Lord and Lady Camden, Colonel Body, D.S.O., Major E. B. Burns, and the Rev. G. S. Provis, C.F.

With the troops paraded, the colour party, consisting of Lieuts. C. A. Winch and H. Alexander, C.S.M. Nash, C.Q.M.S. Cooper and Sgt. Hooker, advanced to receive the colours, which rested on drums in front of the platform. The two officers having lowered on one knee, the Vicar dedicated the colours and Lady Camden presented them with the words respectively: "I commit these, the King's Colours, to your hands to be preserved as a sacred trust," and "I now entrust to your care these Regimental Colours to be faithfully preserved." The troops then presented arms while the band played the National Anthem and afterwards the colour bearers and escort marched slowly up and down the lines.



(By kind permission of the "Daily Sketch" and "Photopress.")

LORD CAMDEN'S ADDRESS.

Lord Camden, addressing the men, referred to the Kent Territorial Army Association having received orders from the War Office that reductions had to be made and that one battalion must be done away with from the Kent Infantry Brigade. It was decided to amalgamate the 4th and 5th Battalions under the title of the 4th Buffs. The identity of the 5th Buffs had been retained by a Company to be raised by the Weald of Kent, with headquarters at Cranbrook. It then became a question of the selection of a commanding officer for the new 4th Battalion the Buffs. Colonel Body offered most patriotically to give way to Colonel Dunstan, who was then commanding the 4th Buffs. That amalgamation had now become an accomplished fact, but everyone wished that the 5th Battalion should receive its colours. The reason the Battalion had not received its colours before was because it was not up to its required strength before the war.

The Kent Territorial Army Association deeply deplored the loss of the 5th Battalion the Buffs, who had always, and especially in the great war worthily upheld the traditions of the regiment and the prestige of the country. He could not allow that occasion to pass without expressing his own gratitude and that of the Association to Colonel Body for his past services as a Territorial in the 5th Buffs. During the war Colonel Body rose speedily from commanding a company to the command of a battalion, and thence to the command of a brigade, winning the D.S.O. and O.B.E. for his services. After the Armistice, on his return from India, he re-constructed his battalion.

KUT-EL-AMARA AND BAGHDAD.

After briefly recording the earlier history of the 5th Buffs, the Lord Lieutenant recalled that it was the first British battalion in action for the attempted relief of Kut-el-Amara, and in those battles, as the Weald of Kent knew only too well, it suffered very severe loss. It was the first regiment to enter the historic town of Baghdad after its capture by the British, and raised the first British flag there, which was now in safe and sacred custody in Canterbury Cathedral. Those colours which had just been presented were subscribed for by the ladies of Kent before the war. "I wish to remind you," concluded Lord Camden, "that although your old Battalion no longer exists as a battalion you still retain the title and the badges of the 'C' (Weald) Company, 5th Buffs, 4th Battalion the Buffs, and upon you will depend the carrying on of the splendid traditions of your old Battalion."

The march past of the Company, with colours proudly borne, produced a fine spectacle. St. Dunstan's Parish Church was crowded for the subsequent laying-up ceremony. Officers carrying the colours, with their escort, marched to the altar steps, where Major Burns presented them "to the safe keeping of this church." After placing the colours on the altar, the Vicar, in appropriate acknowledgement, said that with every reverence and respect they would be a source of great comfort to many, and of inspiration to all. After prayers and the hymn, "O God, our help in ages past," the officers followed the Vicar to the war memorial tablet near the choir stalls where the colours were placed in fixtures on the wall on each side. An inspiring service concluded with the singing of the National Anthem. After the ceremony a Committee of Buffs' ladies of Cranbrook under Mrs. Eric Clarke most hospitably entertained to tea the troops, and the many Past Buffs present, as well as a large party of friends.

"Beneath Bell Harry."

BY TREADMILL.

SINCE last month we have put away our footballs and hockey sticks and donned our flannels—sometimes in the heat of summer and at other times on those days when all eyes in Kent are turned towards the Fruit blossom

On Good Friday, we played hockey against a Wimbledon XI. and drew 2 all. We had every reason to be proud of this as they had many of their 1st XI. playing including Mr. Vidal.

We have also played two mixed hockey matches against Lady Harris XI. winning one and losing one. Lady Harris played a very good game, and was heard to remark that she will not give up hockey until Lord Harris gives up cricket!

We ended up the football season by winning the Canterbury Hospital Charity Cup and the Canterbury Junior League cup. The former was last won by us when Major Tomlinson was Captain of the XI. We congratulate the team on their wonderful record and more especially R.S.M. Dare on the splendid way he has couched his XI.

We started the Cricket Season badly by losing to St. Lawrence. Though we were handicapped by not having Major Guy Lee and Lt. Chester we had hoped to do better. We won our next match which was against Beverley by 4 wickets.

Albuera Day and all that it represents was celebrated by a parade and march past followed by a holiday, and a full account of all that took place will be found elsewhere, except for the story of an officer of the Depot. who thought he would try his luck at one of the sideshows. He came to one where he was required to throw pennies into a hat. If he failed he lost his penny. If he won he got sixpence. He threw four consecutive pennies into the hat, won two shillings, broke the bank and was warned off the course.

AND A GENEROUS ACTION.

I feel I cannot end without letting you know that all other ranks have given a day's pay on Albuera Day towards the Benevolent Fund.

FOOTBALL.

Canterbury Hospital Cup.

(Buffs Victory in final.)

On Mr. R. McNeill, M.P., kicking off, The Buffs immediately became the aggressors, and ultimately Parry sent Drumgold away who, with a nice centre, enabled Lt. Chester to open the score. The Depot Team now played with renewed energy, and Ingram, dribbling beautifully down the left wing, sent in some splendid centres, which were not however, turned to account. Up to the interval the hot-pace was maintained, but there was no further scoring.

In the second half the Buffs greatly improved their game, and with their wings assiduously fed, they set up a strong attack. Ingram, receiving near the half-way line, beat all opposition and sent the ball right across the goal-mouth for Drumgold to add No. 2 with a neat shot. The Lesser Stour now made a splendid rally, and were often within an ace of scoring. At last Evans, with fine judgment, beat the defence and reduced the lead to 2—1. The civilians strove hard for the equalise but the Buffs soon placed the issue beyond doubt, with the best goal of the match. With one of his characteristic runs "Darkie" Ingram outpaced the defence and practically from the corner flag sent in a terrific drive, which struck the off upright. From the rebound Drumgold placed the ball out of Emptage's reach. From this point the Buffs were content to hold their lead, and, with no further response from the Lesser Stour, the final score was:

Buffs Depot	3
Lesser Stour	1

For the winners Morgan and Dare were sound at back, whilst Parry did some useful work at centre-half; but the star performer of the day was undoubtedly Ingram, who proved a tough proposition to his opponents. Drumgold, on the opposite wing, combined nicely with Lieut. Chester.

The Season's Results.

League Matches.

P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals for.	Goals Against
17	16	o	1	118	3

Cup Matches.

5	5	Nil.	Nil.	20	1

Trophies.

Kent and Canterbury Hospital Charity Cup.
Canterbury and District Junior League Cup.

Canterbury Waverly *v* The Depot.

In this friendly-match played on the 2nd May, Canterbury Waverley ran out winners by 2–0.

SHOOTING.

The Sergeants have proved themselves, for the moment at least, champion shots of the Depot. Matches were arranged between the Corporals and the Privates, and between the Officers and Sergeants, the intention being a shoot off by the two winning teams against each other. The practices were 5 rounds each at Grouping, Application and rapid, on the 30 yards Range. Here are the results:—

Officers *v.* Sergeants.

Capt. Thomas	45	R.S.M. Dare	50
Capt. Morley	26	C.S.M. Mason	49
Capt. Strettell	54	C.S.M. Love	54
Capt. Pinhey	40	C.S.M. Couchman	47
Lt. Symons	53	Sgt. Potter	46
Lt. Willows	55	Sgt. Jones	50
Lt. Chester	49	C.S.M. Adams	56
	322		352

Corporals *v.* Privates.

Cpl. Baker	45	Pte. Denman	39
L/C. Ingram	16	Pte. Ellis	26
L/C. Middleton	47	Pte. Lewry	30
Cpl. Vant	51	Pte. Freelove	32
Cpl. Gomn	48	Pte. Beale	39
L/C. Dillon	41	Pte. Mills	57
Cpl. Holding	51	Pte. Steel	25
	299		248

Sergeants *v.* Corporals.

Sgt.-Dr. Clayton	31	Cpl. Middleton	25
C.S.M. McWalker	37	Cpl. McNeir	32
Sgt. Smith	35	L/C. Collier	35
Sgt. Legge	32	Cpl. Vant	34
C.S.M. Adams	32	L/C. Adams	27
Sgt. Amos	31	Cpl. Crawley	29
Sgt. Potter	39	L/C. Dillon	29
	237		211

Monthly A. R. A. Medal.

The winner of the above Medal for April was Pte. Hudson who with a score of 18 beat Pte. Veitch with whom he had tied for first place in the first instance, each having scored 50 in the best aggregate of 3.

BOXING.

The Rev. Cooper Hunt, C.F. is to be congratulated on the success of his Garrison Boys' Club Boxing Tournament held on April 20th, the sporting spirit and enthusiasm displayed by the youngsters taking part being a pleasure to watch. Space does not permit in giving the result of all the contests, but here are those in which the Boys took part.

(Continued on next page.)

Beneath Bell Harry—*continued.*

Special Three Minutes Round Contest.

Eric Kember (Garrison Men's Club) v. Pte. Bone (Depot), The Buffs. The meeting of these two light-weights produced a lively fight, but Bone, with his lightning leads, held the advantage throughout.

Enlisted Boys' Competition.

First Series—Boy Riches (The Buffs) beat Boy Nel (10th Hussars)—a plucky loser; Boy Cummins (The Buffs) knocked out Boy Abbott (10th Hussars); Boy Rawlings (The Buffs) beat Boy Johnson (10th Hussars); Boy Elliott (10th Hussars) beat Boy Frisby (10th Hussars)

Semi-finals.—Cummins beat Riches in the 2nd Round. Elliott beat Rawlings in a good encounter.

Final.—Cummins v. Elliott: A good fight, with Cummins somewhat the heavier man. There was some hurricane hitting in the third round, in which the winner, Elliott, established his winning advantage.

Junior Boys (under 5-stone).

Semi-final.—G. Monaghan beat G. Clarke worrying him like a little terrier.

Final.—Monaghan beat McNally in a fight providing good sport, and in which both displayed the right spirit.

Junior Boys (over 5-stone).

First Series.—P. Molloy beat his brother, J. Molloy; R. Edwards beat J. Waghorne; T Warner beat C. Molloy (a hot fight); D. McNally beat his brother, J. McNally.

Semi-finals: Edwards beat Molloy and Warner beat McNally.

Final.—Edwards beat Warner.

The Sergeants' Mess.

With the exception of matters which will be found chronicled under the heading of Sports, etc., the past month has, indeed, been a quiet one. Football has become a thing of the past; Cricket and Tennis have scarcely got into their stride, while the long light evenings have hardly been conducive to indoor pastimes being indulged in notwithstanding the fact that we have a bevy of Members who would not for the very world forego their nightly game of Chummy Euchre.

We have Sergeants Boarer, Croucher and Denny with us now. They joined the Depot when the 1st Battalion went to "Constant." "Sammy" is very keen on Billiards, whilst "Mockey" is a proper Euchre enthusiast. His heart and soul is as much in the game as his hand is in his pocket after playing one. (The Caterer can corroborate this). He will insist on giving two away. This, *of course*, refers to "points" not "pints."

Quite a Gala Day it was here on May 16th (Albuera Day). Starting in the early morning (after a short parade) with Sports and all kinds of Side-shows and ending with quite a delightful Concert at night in the Prince of Wales' Institute. A report of the Holiday will be found elsewhere.

On Saturday last, we met the County Police in a game of Cricket on the Depot ground in which the "Gents in Blue" excelled and ran the rule over us. After the game we all had tea in the Blue Room of the Mess at which several of the wives of members of both teams joined us. It was a happy little gathering, and several of the "Blue Boys" remained till later in the evening enjoying games of Whist, Billiards, etc., etc., while one or two of them were let into the mysteries of that tantalizing game known as "Scrub your Mack." We are all looking forward to the return fixture later in the season.

We understand that the "Notability" this month will be ex-R.S.M. John Bennell. We often see "dear old Jack." He's truly a wonderful man for his years and wears so well. We came across him the other night taking a walk at a goodly distance from his home, and he was "stepping it out" like a Good 'Un. Quite a living example of that oft-repeated adage "Old soldiers never die, they only fade away." Well turned seventy and John scarcely seems to be even "fading" yet! We hope and expect to see him for many years yet on his almost weekly visit to the old barracks and Mess which he loved so much.

W. M. S.

The Corporals.

The Members of the Corporals' Mess held the last dance of the season in the Garrison Gymnasium School on 28th April. The School had been tastefully decorated by the committee, which comprised Corpls. Hamer, Driscoll, Ingram, and Adams. Over 200 guests participated in the evening's enjoyment. Great amusement was caused by the distribution of boxes of chocolates to occupiers of certain chairs, the numbers of which were announced—the winners receiving their presents from Mrs. Foster. They were: Mrs. Kennett, Mrs. Osborne, Mrs. Pike, Mrs. Willett, Miss Mailey and Mr. Ray. The prize for the lucky ticket number was won by Miss Dunk. Dancing was kept up until the early hours of morning, the band being under the direction of Corpl. Collier. Corpls. Hamer and Driscoll efficiently performed the duties of M.C.

Depot Football Team.

(Winners of Hospital Charity Cup and Junior District League 1921-22.)

(Standing)—
Pte. E. Bowman L/c. S. Flood L/c. A. Smith Pte. H. Shelton Cpl. S. Middleton Pte. C. Parry Sgt. (Q.R.S.) W. Maillard

(Sitting)—
Lt. J. Chester Major Guy Lee, D.S.O., M.C. R.S.M. P. Dare *(Captain)* Capt. E. F. D. Strettell Sgt. J. Morgan, M.M.
Pte. E. Drumgold. L/c. C. Ingram.

(L/c. Collier absent on duty).

The 4th Battalion.

THE Battalion has completed its training in camp at Dibgate, Shorncliffe, and returned to Canterbury on the 13th May, after a most successful time. The weather was on the whole bad, but this damped nobody's spirits, and did not prevent the holding of sports on the 12th May, at which the prizes were presented by Major General Sir John Longley, K.C. M.G., C.B., G.O.C. 44th (H.C.) Division.

The Battalion was inspected by General Lord Horne, G.C.B.,K.C.M.G.,A.D.C., G.O.C.-in-Chief Eastern Command, and was visited by the Inspector General of Territorials and the Under Secretary of State.

The health of the Battalion remained quite good, despite leaking tents and thin blankets; this was doubtless owing mainly to the fact that there was plenty of good food to warm up the inner man.

A Concert was held in Camp every night during the last week of the Camp, and they were much appreciated and enjoyed. On one occasion a splendid entertainment was given by the Depot Band.

Colonel Body visited the Camp, and inspected the weald of Kent Coy., and Colonel G. Gosling, late Commanding Officer of the 4th Battalion, dined on one occasion with the officers.

On May 7th an open air service was conducted for the troops by Rev. A. P. McNeale.

On the 13th May, the Cranbrook Coy. left Camp to proceed to Cranbrook for the presentation of the Colours by The Countess of Camden.

The numbers attending camp were happily quite up to expectation, and great keeness was shown by all ranks, both in work and sport.

The Battalion is still in want of such specialists as Bandsmen, Machine Gunners and Signallers and any who have any capabilities in these directions are asked to show themselves.

The Sergeants' Mess, under R.S.M. Verlander, was an unqualified success. On the 6th they entertained the Officers at a Social Concert in the Mess, the musical arrangements of which were under Bandmaster Mortimer. Most able and pleasing speeches were delivered by R.S.M. Verlander the chairman, and, in response, by Major Burns, who in a very pleasing oration dwelt on the very satisfactory way in which the amalgamation had been affected as between the 5th and 4th Battalions, and remarked that on this the first occasion of which they had Camped together, he was very glad to see how well the two Battalions had blended.

In Camp at Dibgate.

After three trainings—two last year and one this—we think we know all about Dibgate. On a fine sunny day, or still warm night, with scores of nightingales singing, who could wish a pleasanter spot. But warm days and still nights were the exception during the period 29th April to 13th May wherein we performed our training of 1922. Memory rather conjures up visions of a bare wind-swept hilltop, and days of frequent gusts of rain, and invariably cold. However, who cared? We were out for a holiday and we all enjoyed it thoroughly.

Besides, our training, if strenuous was interesting and progressive. That is what we all come out for—the old hands to rub up the knowledge they gained in a harder school, and the youngsters to learn their job so that they can carry on when the last old soldier 'fades away.' What struck one who remembers pre-war trainings was the rapidity with which the Battalion shook down and found itself. In the old days it required the greater part of the training before even the rudiments of discipline and skill at arms were obtained. Now, after two or three days it seemed as if the interval between the real thing and present peace time training has never been. It is the war experience gained by the Officers and N.C.Os. which makes a body of men, who a few days previously were following the plough, or their other normal occupations, into a fine soldier-like Battalion.

It is not necessary to refer at length to the work of the training. The first week, with the exception of the Brigade Commander's Inspection (how we froze on that cold and windy morning), was under Company arrangements. The first two days of the second week were allotted to the Battalion Commander—a route march and a tactical exercise, and the last days were devoted by the Brigade Commander to a Brigade route march and tactical exercise on Wednesday and Thursday when the Divisional Commander Sir John Longley saw us at work. On Friday General Lord Horne inspected the Brigade, another chilly ordeal, but out of which we flatter ourselves we came not without honour. Lord Horne afterwards lunched with the Officers of 4th Buffs before proceeding to see the Brigade Sports in the afternoon.

In sport we were not very successful. We lost the semi-final of the Bde. inter Company Football Competition, and only had moderate success in the sports. But we won easily the best event of all—the Battle-order Relay Race, thanks largely to our Officer runner, Lt. Reeves, for his great sprint in the first relay. We lost the final of the Tug-of-War to the 4th R.W. Kent team, who were splendidly coached.

Our Band (including the musicians from the Depot) and Drums contributed largely to the enjoyment of the training both on the march and in camp.

A final word—all will remember gratefully the efforts of our Messing Officers, Captains James and Reed. If ever troops had better rations they were lucky!

The Weald Company (C).

As much of last month was spent in Camp there is not a great deal of local interest to record. The Presentation of the Colours of the 5th Battalion, of which we are proud to be the successors, took place at Cranbrook on the day of our return from Camp. A report of the proceedings appears elsewhere in this number, so we will not refer to it further here.

We went into camp 115 strong, and from thence onwards our numbers on parade appeared to grow smaller day by day–but that is inevitable when signallers, batmen and others are called away to other spheres of usefulness. We managed to retain one of our permanent Staff—C.S.M. Rylott, though seldom seen did highly useful work in the Company Office—a disused hut he promptly annexed for the purpose. C.S.M. Potter completely lost his voice but found much scope for his activities in training Recruits. C.Q.M.S. Cooper was taken to run the Sergeants' Mess, and we saw him no more—except one windy day when his unaided effort, and weight, appeared to be all that stood between their marquee and disaster.

We had our photographs taken as a Company and also those of us who are survivors of the old 1/5th Battalion that went to India in October, 1914.

It was a great pleasure to us to have our old C.O., Colonel Body among us for a few days.

Colonel Dunstan said some kind things to us before we marched off the Station; and we are greatly obliged to the Drums for marching us so far on the road.

We were sorry when the time was over and it was said many times we wished we could have another fortnight.

The Editor, *The Dragon,* **would much appreciate the receipt of regular news from all companies and detachments of the 4th Battalion, and he would be glad to hear from those who might like to become regular correspondents to the paper, particularly from Canterbury, Dover and Margate.**

For Good Value

Place your custom with the firms whose names you find in the pages of The Dragon, and kindly mention The Dragon.

Obituary.

CAPT. AND QR.-MR. T. L. RYE.

WE regret to announce the death of Captain and Qr.-Mr. T. L. Rye, who died on Sunday, 7th May, as the result of wounds received in France in September, 1917, while serving with the 7th Battalion. He was a "long service" soldier having enlisted on 16th February, 1887 at the age of 18 to complete 21 years with the Colours, for the greater part with the 1st Battalion, with which he served in the N.W. Frontier Expedition of 1898, gaining the medal.

On his retirement in 1908 he lived chiefly at Dunkirk where he was well known as a lover of all manly sports. Almost immediately on the outbreak of the Great War he rejoined and, in 1915 proceeded as R.S.M. of the 7th Battalion to France when he was blown up by a mine and sent home.

Back to France in 1916, and he received his commission as Lieut. and Qr.-Mr. of the same Battalion, and it was near Poperinghe on 26th September, 1917, when he had just entered his iron shelter after duty that a bomb dropped at the entrance, and severely wounded, he fell across his son who was standing by.

Making a wonderful recovery he was able, later, to take up the appointment of Qr.-Mr. at the Officers' Prisoners' of War Camp at Oswestry where he was gazetted Captain.

The writer of these notes, wishes to bear testimony to the great fortitude and courage with which he bore his sufferings, and how, in spite of them, he exerted himself to encourage the youth of the village in sports; and to uphold the name of "The Buffs."

The funeral took place on Wednesday 10th inst. at Dunkirk, and, as he would have wished, W.O's. and Col. Sgts. of his old Regiment were the pall bearers, and a firing party was provided by the Depot.

He leaves a widow and four stalwart sons, two of whom have served in The Buffs.

C. SHEPPARD.

JOHN QUINN.

EX-Colour Sergeant John Quinn on 27th April, 1922, of Pneumonia at Woolwich.

John Quinn joined the 1st Battalion about November, 1875, at Cawnpore, he was a native of Nenagh in the County Tipperary. He was not long in Cawnpore before he began to come to the front as an athlete. For the next ten years his triumphs were constant. In India in Regimental sports, or in garrison or Divisional meetings, Quinn of the Buffs was always a sure thing. He won the weight putting at the Army meeting, Aldershot, I believe ten times. I only saw him beaten with the shot on two occasions, once by a fitter from the Allahabad locomotive works, and once by the late Owen Hart, R. I. Constabulary, but both these were world champions.

Quinn used to take the broad jump with 20 ft. His throw with the 24 lb. shot with follow was 33 ft. His last appearance at Aldershot was, I think, in '93, when he took the ½ mile for N.C.Os. over 15 years Service. The writer of these notes was closely associated with him for forty-six years.

J. BENNELL.

Births, Marriages and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

Couchman.—At Canterbury, on 28/4/22, the wife of 6280315 C.S.M. B. Couchman, a son, Raymond Druce.

McNeir.—On 23/4/22, the wife of 6278534 Cpl. C. McNeir, a son, Alfred George.

MARRIAGES.

Crosby—Lindfield.—At the Wesleyan Church, Colombo, on March 13th, by the Rev. A. E. Restarick, Herbert Hollis, late No. 240743 A. Co., 1/5th Buffs, M.E.F., younger son of William Moss Crosby, late of Canterbury to Eveline Edith, second daughter of Alfred Albert Lindfield of Kensal Rise, N.

Kimm—Mayes.—At Northampton, on April 18th, 1922, 2nd Lieut. G. W. P. Kimm, Education Officer, 1st Battalion The Buffs, to Kathleen Eveline Mayes.

DEATHS.

Hanshaw.—At Rochester, on the 25th April, 1922, No. 6278478 Pte. H. Hanshaw, Section "B," Army Reserve.

Pritchard.—On 23rd April, at Elms Vale, Dover, of Pneumonia, Charles Pritchard, late 2/4th Buffs, aged 27.

Rye.—At Hythe on 7th May, 1922, Captain and Quartermaster T. L. Rye, late the Buffs. (See Obituary).

Swendell.—On May 4th, 1922, at 28 Middle Cross Street, Armley, Leeds, Catherine Swendell, the beloved wife of Moses Edward Swendell (ex-Colour Sergt., Depot "The Buffs"), aged 53 years.

Lloyd's Patriotic Fund.

THE Annual Report of the Fund for 1921, shows that the work is still carried on, which was started in 1803, by general subscription, among the Merchants, Underwriters and other Subscribers to Lloyd's Coffee House at the Royal Exchange. £15,932 has been distributed during 1921 in grants, the expenses of management being just over 5%.

It is hoped that during 1922, it will be possible to help a few of the sad cases that have been on the Waiting List of the General Fund for some time. Necessitous cases connected with the Navy and Army are eligible.

In 1899 part of the public subscription raised by the Lord Mayor of London, was handed over to Lloyd's Patriotic Fund, to be disbursed to Officers and Men disabled on Active Service in the South African War.

A special subscription that was raised in 1914 at Lloyd's for the benefit of Naval and Military Forces was handed over to Lloyd's Patriotic Fund for distribution.

The Trusteers decided that the larger part of this Fund should be used to assist with the maintenance and education of the children of Naval Officers losing their lives in the Great War. Sufferers through that War, who had previously been connected with Lloyd's, are helped from the remainder.

The thanks of the Trustees are given to "King George's Fund for Sailors" for generous grants during 1921, and to Messrs. Gerard van de Linde & Son, for again acting as Honorary Auditors.

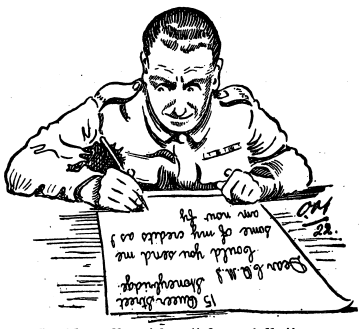
The address of Fund is:—Brook House, Walbrook, E.C.4.

Don't forget that if you have anything to sell, or if there is anything you want to buy, we will gladly publish your requirements in The Dragon free of all charge.

Short articles, sketches, drawings, and photographs are always acceptable for the Dragon.

The Young Soldier's Handbook.

Furlough.



Could spell neither "financially" nor "embarrassed."

IN the good old days, (when soldiers going for a holiday were required to pay half railway fare only), furlough was something to be looked forward to.

Nowadays, however, while men are required to pay full fare two or three times over, it is in most cases a thing which can only be looked back upon.

As a good soldier you will yearn sooner or later, (though more probably sooner), for a spell at home, in which case, you may find it difficult to persuade the War Office to move your barracks nearer your home, but one way to surmount the railway fare difficulty is to persuade your people to move nearer to the barracks.

Failing this, the only alternative, if you feel you must have the furlough, is to become a Company Quartermaster-Sergeant and purchase a Rolls Royce. This plan however, is peculiarly liable to foment suspicion, and should be resorted to only in the last extremity.

Two things in particular prevent a man getting a furlough, being in debt and not having been dismissed drill. With regard to the former, a man who owes anything to the British taxpayer is not recommended to seek furlough, advancing as an argument in his favour that his father is a taxpayer, who, acting on behalf of the remainder of them, raises no objection to the indulgence being granted. This course, far from achieving the desired result, is more likely to bring about the total loss of leave of absence for some time ahead. With regard to being dismissed drill, it is obviously ridiculous a man asking for furlough until he has learnt the correct way to slope.

It is inadvisable to have furlough simply for the sake of having it, it has a very relaxing effect on the constitution, an effect which amounts in a good many cases to a positive danger to health. This is evidenced by the large number of men who are, at the end of their furlough, in the hands of the family doctor.

Men have at times gone to enormous lengths to get leave of absence, but the mark should not be overstepped. For instance, one man, having in mind the fact that furlough is invariably granted a man whose family suffers a bereavement, conceived the idea of spending the greater part of his pay on weed killer and sending it home to his father. But, to his disgust, nothing came of it. The more sensible thing would have been to have saved that money for the furlough which followed shortly afterwards, especially so in view of the fact that towards the end of his month's leave he found he could spell neither the word "financially" nor "embarrassed."

Hints on procedure, etc. :—

Having ensured

(*a*) That the people at home can do with you and
(*b*) That the Army can do without you.
(*c*) Get your :—
  (1) Excuse ready.
  (2) Hair cut.
  (3) Boots polished.
  (4) Best suit of service dress.
  (5) Hands back and thumbs to the front, and
(*d*) Ask the Company Officer to be allowed to go.

Remember that you must leave your address with him, and that to save time no foreign address should be given, as this necessitates special authority, which is very sparingly granted.

Men whose homes are at Brighton are therefore unlucky.

Remember also that you should never appear in a public place unless you are properly dressed. This does not, however, apply to any female companion you may have with you on your wanderings. On the first day of your leave you should commence to study your Bradshaw, with a view to ascertaining the best train to take you back to your unit. If you have a month's furlough, by sticking to your study, you should have at least five days to spare before you return.

Does not apply to any Female companion.

Know precisely which train you want to catch, and always remember that if you don't catch it, you *will* catch it, and obversely, if you do catch it, you won't.

Change here for Bedlam !

O.M.

The Benevolent Fund.

THE following has reached us from Capt. STRETTELL, Hon. Secretary The Buffs Benevolent Fund.

"Would you be good enough to thank the following for their very generous donations to the Buffs Benevolent Fund.

Mr. T. Trevor (late Sgt. of Broadwater Estate, Sungai Siput, Perah F.M.S., 11/-.

Sgt. MacMahon, 2nd Battalion, 10/6 (refund of Prize awarded by *The Dragon* for his Prisoner of War article).

Sergeants' Mess, Depot The Buffs (Collection 1/8.)

And I also wish to express the thanks of my Committee for the generous way in which our fund was supported at the Depot on Albuhera Day this year.

(*a*) Every other rank has given one day's pay.

(*b*) The sum of £4 10s. 0d. has been handed to me by Sergeant Boarer as a result of the Fair organised by him, the amount being made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Orange orchard—Cpl. Wright ...	1	7	6
Pitch and Toss—L/Cpl. Wright ...	0	8	2
Bobbing Jack—Sgt. Smith	0	9	0
Houpla—L/Sgts. Amos and Emery ...	0	8	6
Aunt Sally—Cpl. Crawley	0	12	8
Lucky Spin—Sgt. Jones	0	0	9
Swimming Match—L/Sgt. Beasley ...	0	3	10
Water Otter—Sgt. Page	0	0	5
Ice Cream Vendor	0	5	0
Barrel Organ—Sgt. Boarer	0	10	0
	5	12	2
Expenses ...	1	2	2
Balance ...	£4	10	0

Sergeant Boarer as well as the many showmen who helped him, are indeed to be congratulated on their success. (*c*)The shooting on the 30 yards range brought in 7/8, being 25% of total takings, the remainder going to the Rifle Club."

WANTED—The names and addresses of all old Buffs to enable us to send them a Dragon.

Albuera Day at the Depot.

AN ideal day, coupled with the enthusiasm of all ranks, made Albuera Day, celebrated at the Depot on May 16th one big success. The day opened with a short ceremonial parade at the hockey ground, and the march past to the music of the Depot Band brought credit to all who took part in it.

The parade over, all ranks devoted themselves to the many pleasures awaiting them in the open air free from the worries of parades, education, and "As you were!" These opened with a sports meeting, (with many sideshows), admirably arranged by a committee consisting of Capt. Strettell, Lieuts. Chester and Cass, R.S.M. Dare, C.Q.M.S. Jones, S.I. Springett, and Sgt. Boarer; and here are the results of the several events:

SPORTS RESULTS.

Throwing Cricket Ball.

1st Pte. Moore 75′ 7″, 2nd Pte. Cavell 73′ 10″, 3rd Pte. Foster 70′.

Wrestling on Horseback.

1st Pte. Hoy and Pte. Brawn, 2nd Boy Nelthorpe, and Boy Gosling.

High Jump.

1st Pte. Flanders 4′ 3″, 2nd Pte. Hoy 4′ 1″, 3rd L/C. Richards 4′ 1″, 4th Boy Gosling 4′ 0″.

Boot Race.

1st Boy Rawlings, 2nd Boy Nelthorpe.

Wheelbarrow Race.

1st Cpl. Namer, Pte. Cloake, 2nd Pte. Hadkin, Pte. Hoy.

Musical Pegs.

1st Pte. Woods, 2nd L/C. Ingram, 3 rd L/C. Kenston.

THE SIDE-SHOWS.

The Side Shows, in aid of the Benevolent Fund, were well patronised, among the funniest being Sgt. Beasley's "Swimming Match" (a match floating in a bath of water), and Sgt. Osborne's Statues from Greece, (consisting of small statues of Waxy the Kidney Basher, Old Roman Athlete, Venus de Milo, etc., made from candle grease and match stalks.

The Aunt Sally, Orange shy and Hoopla stalls were well patronized and were a source of delight as also was the Roulette Wheel run by Sgt. Jones.

POOL SHOOT ON 30 YDS. RANGE. CONTINUOUS.

The Committee:—Lt. Wall and C.S.M. i/c Weapon Training).

This event, 3 shots for 2d., which ran on to 4.30 p.m. was productive of 23 bulls eyes by recruits and 18 by Trained Men, and the value of a bull worked out 8d.

OFFICERS *v.* SERGEANTS, CRICKET MATCH.

The afternoon was devoted to a cricket match between the Officers and Sergeants in which the former ran out easy winners by 148 runs, the scores being Officers 190, Sergeants 52.

The following were the two teams, the figures in brackets denoting the number of runs made.

Officers.

Major Guy Lee (12), Lt. Webster (14), Lt. Chester (42), Lt. Willows (83), Capt. Strettell (0), Capt. Pinhey (2), Lt. Price (17), Capt. Morley (1), Lt. Cass (3), Major Foster (1), Capt. Stone (1).

Sergeants.

C.S.M. Couchman (1), Sgt. Maillard (4), R.S.M. Dare (24), Sgt. Denny (5), W.O. Collins (2), Sgt.-Dr. Clayton (Œ), Sgt. Morgan (3), Sgt. Beasle (1), C.Q.M.S. Jones (2), C.Q.M.S. Ransley (0), C.S.M. Follett (0).

HIDDEN TREASURE HUNT.

(Committee:—Lt. Webster, Lt. Willows, C.S.M. Mason).

This event, in which there were no less than 150 Hunters proved a very popular one. Four envelopes containing the prizes were hidden in different spots in or near the Old Park, and the participants were given a sheet of verses, ably composed by C.S.M. O. Mason, giving clues as to their whereabouts. L/C. Dillon was the first one to find a treasure, which he secured in 30 minutes. Ptes. Douglas and Tullach found one each in 90 minutes, while the last was found by Pte. A. Bone in three and a half hours. (This one, incidentally, was really by far the easiest to discover).

THE SOCIAL SIDE.

A special tea was arranged for the Corporals and Privates in the Dining Hall, and the arrangements made for this by Capt. Morley and Sgt. Marchant were much appreciated.

Simultaneously the W.O.'s and Sergeants and their families were entertained at tea by the Commanding Officer and Officers of the Depot, and right royally were they provided for. About a hundred partook and the Officers and Mess Staff were given a busy hour looking after their guests.

AND THE CONCERT.

(Committee:—Capt. Morley, Capt. Pinhey, Lieut. Price, Sgt.-Dr. Clayton, L/C. Collier, Sgt. Boarer).

This Concert was a fitting "end of a perfect day." Some really good items were provided, and the band, as always, responded magnificently to the Spirit of the occasion and gave of their best.

Programme.

SELECTION.	"A Musical Switch"	BAND.
SONG.	"Gift of Roses"	DR. BAKER.
	"Until"	ENCORE.
TROMBONE SOLO		PTE. WOODS.
SONG.	"Captain working for me now"	SGT. BEASLEY.
STEP DANCE.		SGT. BOARER.
MUSICAL HATCH	"Trumpeter" PTE. WOODS,	PTE. COLLIER, SG. BEASLEY.
DESCRIPTIVE PIECE	"Motor Ride"	BAIRD.
BANJOLINE SOLO		CAPTAIN MORLEY.
SONG.	"Went to Sleep again"	PTE. WOODS.
CORNET SOLO		PTE. COLLIER.
SONG	"My Task"	DR. BAKER.
Imitation of Sousa		SGT. BOARER.

The Army Encyclopædia.

FILM.—Anything of pronounced thinness. This particularly applies, in the cases of films at cinemas, to the plot.

FINANCE.—(See "COMPANY QUARTERMASTER-SERGEANT"—though this is hardly likely to be of any use).

FIRE ALARM.—A ritual periodically performed in barracks to enable the Quartermaster's department to ascertain the number of leaks in the fire-fighting hosepipe, and to demonstrate the usefulness, and occasionally, the uselessness, of a Louis Quatorze Fire Engine.

FIRE-BUCKET.—A receptacle used in military institutions for holding water, distinguishable from a beer barrel by the fact that it is painted red.

FOOD.—In view of the well-known fact that an Army marches on its stomach, the Subject of food in the Army is one of considerable importance. In each unit a specialist, known as the master cook, is engaged, who theoretically can cook anything from a pair of kippers, to a diet sheet, while, as to his powers of adaptability, he makes a bake of almost anything.

The best known food in the Army is Bully Beef, and Biscuits, the former of which is packed in metal tins, and the latter of which has a generous proportion of the same material. The exertion necessary to break these biscuits provides a subtle means of adding zest to the appetite.

GASPIPE.—A sort of long tube used in barracks for the conduction of air.

GROUPING.—An experiment in shooting which proves beyond the possibility of a doubt, that rounds of service ammunition are not so uniform in composition as is generally supposed.

GUNFIRE.—The first drink taken in the early morning, its nature depending mainly on that of the liquid consumed on the evening of the previous day.

GYMNASIUM.—A building used for dancing etc., and occasionally for Athletic exercises.

Ypres Re-visited.

(By kind permission of the "Ypres Times."

"No, thank you, I do not require a guide to the battlefield. In fact, to be perfectly frank with you —

— I made the — thing!"

The Great Drive of Amara.

By P. J. Macmahon.

I NEVER told you the story of the great drive held in connection with the Sergts. Mess in Amara. Well, here goes :—One Sunday morning, six old sports armed to the teeth with 12 bore guns and a mass of cartridges ranging from No. 1's to 12's essayed forth in pursuit of game. It was to be the drive of the season.

A week before a wild boar had been spotted by Badger Cook and Skipper Webb. The boar had been chased to the river where it had plunged in, so the yarn goes, and swam almost to the other side, when it returned to take cover in its original haunts. The tracking down of this boar was the *special* idea, but any old thing in the nature of game was the *general* one. Two bearers were supplied by our genial contractor David Hai, one to carry sandwiches and the other liquid refreshment and both to carry back the bag (of game not empty bottles.)

The drive started in real earnest, the sports were, Skipper, George Coaster, Graf Tong, Peter Jackson, Dick Whittingham, and old Mac., On arrival at the haunts of the boar we opened out and with guns at the ready advanced through the jungle in extended order. The covert was well beaten, but sad to relate not a trace of the wild boar was to be found. Still undaunted our heroes proceeded further afield and upon skirting an Arab Village were joined by some score of the youths of that place, who evidently scenting fun were determined not to miss it. So they attached themselves to our party and, in broken English, informed us that they knew where game in galore was to be found.

The merry party proceeded at intervals of about 150 to 200 yards between guns for a matter of some six miles without a halt and also without sighting a single thing to expend a shot on. Then a halt was called to satisfy the cravings of the inner man, when lo ? upon calling the roll, one member of the party was missing. But the party were too hungry, or was it thirsty, to wait so the attack on the viands began.

About half an hour later a figure was spotted on a skyline a good one and a half miles away. Guns were fired (for the first time since starting the drive) to attract attention, which was successful and Graf Tong rejoined the party.

After giving him time to assuage his hunger and thirst, he told us of a lake he had come across that was so packed with wild duck, as to provide two per man for the whole Battalion. And we hardly gave him time to gollop his last sandwich so eager were we to get on the scene of this sportsmans' paridise.

A trudge of some 3 miles brought us to the borders of a lake and there in the very centre were the ducks sure enough and quite up to the numbers reported by the Graf, but the lake was a mile long and almost as wide, so the birds were quite out of range. A scheme however was devised, and the party distributed themselves around the lake whilst the intrepid Graf, followed by his trusty beaters, plunged recklessly into the water and waded towards the prey. When within a 100 yards of the birds he fired and his beaters shouted at the top of their voices. The ducks rose in a dense cloud amidst deafening quacks and, circling just out of range, rose higher and higher until they vanished from sight. All the jolly old sports essayed shot after shot but nary a duck fell to the guns.

Greatly disappointed, the party decided to wend their way homewards by the river bank and chance getting a few black partridges or any old thing to take back just to show the Mess. Presently a hare rose and bolted across their front. Dick spotted him at the same time as Mac. It bolted towards Mac who, putting on a sprint that he was never known to be capable of, cut the varmint off, and drove him back towards Dick who, with gun at the ready, permitted the hare to get within 5 yards of him and then blazed at it point blank ; it was running blind and if Dick hadn't pressed the trigger when he did, the animal would surely have been up his barrel. Anyway he fired and over went Mr. Hare, Dick then charged it and clubbing his rifle, gave him one for luck. On examining the victim it was discovered that not a single shot had touched it, so perhaps it was just as well that Dick had the presence of mind to kill it the way he did.

Although still some six miles from home and, in spite of turning up some dozens of black partridges, not another item fell to the guns, and the party arrived back in camp after some 9 hours trekking with a bag of one hare weight 14 ozs avoirdupois, at the cost of 90 rounds of shot, 12 bottles of beer, some two dozen sandwiches, 12 beaters at 4 annas each, 2 bearers at Rs. 1 each, and an unquenchable thirst for the evening. A great day and one that will ever go down in the Annals of the Sergeants Mess as the Great Drive of Amara.

Another Family Record.

IT is with great pleasure that we publish the following received from Mr. J. W. Kesby, late R.S.M. The Buffs. These family records are more than interesting, and we hope very much that we may be favoured with those of the Smith and the Port families, and also others.

The Kesbys and The Buffs.

I am enclosing a record of our family, and hope Joe Enright will be satisfied that we, if not equal in years, compare very favourably as regards average. Our average being 25 years to 22½ years. In addition, three out of five of my sisters married service men, and all five had husbands or sons serving during the War, one of whom served in the Buffs. I would have liked to have got the records of the whole of them but I am afraid it would take too long.

My father is still living and going strong, although over 82 years of age. I should think he must be one of the oldest Buffs living. I hope to have the pleasure of bringing him down for one day during the Depot or Canterbury week, if I can manage to get away.

While on the subject of " family records " Mr. Editor, I would like to point out that in addition to the Smiths, the Ports (of which I think there were five brothers in the Buffs) would compare favourably with other family records, perhaps Mr. Jack Port will send their record along to the *Dragon*.

Yours faithfully,
J. W. Kesby, late R.S.M., " The Buffs."

Their Record.

		Regt.	Service yrs.	Medals.
Father	Col.-Sgt. J. W. Kesby	The Buffs	45	
Son	Sergt. F. G. Kesby	R.W.K. Regt.	14	King's & Queen's S.A. Medals.
Son	R.S.M. J. W. Kesby	The Buffs	33	L.S. & G.C. 1914–15 Star. British War & Victory Medals.
Son	C.Q.M.S. H. W. Kesby	The Buffs	24	King's & Queen's S.A. Medals. 1915 Star. British War & Victory Medals.
Son	Lieut. Thos. H. Kesby	The Buffs	17	King's & Queen's S.A. Medals. 1914 Star, British War & Victory Medals. Killed at Morval, 15/9/16.
Son	R.S.M. P. A. S. Kesby, L.F.	1st Battn.	17	1914–15 Star British War and Victory Medals. Twice Mentioned in despatches. Killed at Flers, 23/10/16.

Average 25 years.

Nyeri, East Africa.

(THE PUBLIC SCHOOL COLONY),

(being the first of a series of articles, especially written for The Dragon, by Old Buffs who have settled overseas).

YES! this country *is* certainly attractive. The climate is wonderful. Most of the year like an English summer day—with beautifully cool nights.

The Soldier settlement scheme brought out an awfully nice lot of fellows which makes a power of difference out in the Blue.

As a matter of fact most people here seem to be ex-soldiers, and it is still I believe called the Public School Colony. The Railway should be here in two years' time, the money having already been voted for it, and the loan raised.

I am afraid the country is too new, to have many jobs outside farming jobs—and very few of them. At the moment on account of the depression in trade, difficulties of transport, exchange, etc., farming is not a really paying proposition. But it's a good life. I would think that anyone just chucking the Service, *or being chucked*, who had an income not sufficiently large to live at home in any comfort could do very far worse than to come out here.

Our friend could buy a bit of land or a small farm to live on, from about £1 to £10 per acre, (I would suggest somewhere near the polo ground), and make himself a Home. He would want a Ford and some ponies and would, I think, be quite happy. There are certain fellows doing this already.

THE SPORT.

The Sport is cheap and get-at-able. But ponies are dear at present as the demand is larger than the supply. At the moment they cost from £60 to £90 for Country breds, and from one to three hundred florins for Somalis, which as you may imagine, are rather hopeless for Polo. On the other hand their feeding is very cheap. Syces are about £1 a month plus food which costs about 3/- or less Crushed maize costs about 2/- per load of 60 lbs. Lucerne you grow yourself and there is grass in plenty. A grass cutter would cost about 12/- per month without food.

Polo. We have a club here with a *very* good ground about 5 miles from Nyeri the Township. We play every Sunday and some Saturdays. Twice a year there are tournaments in Nairobi which are great fun. We have ours here yearly, and other clubs the same. There are seven or eight clubs in the Country, and Polo is going along like smoke.

Hunting. There is a pack of Hounds about 24 miles away at West Kenya which show good sport—"Jack."

Fishing. Trout. About five miles from Nyeri is the Gura River the brown trout fishing is really good, and the surroundings ideal. The fish run up to about 6 lbs., and take a fly well, but sometimes only a spoon. I note in my diary that the last time I went out with one other fellow we got 24 fish, the largest 4½ lbs. One day last year two of us had a good day. Fairly bagged 17, and I 24 fish, my largest 6¼ lbs. and the bag averaged one of under 3 lbs. each. That was a good day. It sounds like a fairy tale to home people. Some of the Rivers in Kenya are stocked with Rainbows. They also are doing well.

Shooting. I don't think I need enlarge on this, so many books have been written about it. We are only about a day from some of the best in the Country, anything from Elephant and Rhino downwards. There is top-hole sand grouse in the Isiola country about a day away and the Native Reserves round Nyore are full of partridge, quarry and Franklyn. There is also snipe, Duck, guinea fowl and Bustards, etc.

Tennis. Most people have courts. One is being made at the Polo Club.

Golf. About the best course in Africa is at Nyeri Grass with sand greens.

Racing. There are meetings at Nairobi or Nakurn six or eight times a year.

Club. A Club is to be started in Nyeri almost at once. The first meeting was held last Saturday. It is to be run on Indian lines.

In fact for anyone with a small income and a little ready, I cannot think of a better place to come to. My idea would be to buy a small farm, build a house, etc., and get a few cattle to keep one amused and watch them increase. He would have a far better time than poking along at Home these hard times.

Of course I only talk of Nyeri, as I live here and think it the best spot in the Country. But no matter where you go everyone thinks their part or district the Best. Certainly our climate beats anywhere else, and horses do most awfully well. And it is an ideal spot for women and children. If any "Buff," or friend of *The Dragon* is thinking of this country I shall be only too pleased to help him in any way I can. Tell him to write to me. I'm in that happy position of having nothing at the moment to sell but I would do my best to put him wise and to see that he is not *stuck*.

This country is going to boom in the near future like blazes. The best advice I could give would be buy land, land, and more land before the railway comes. When it does come, and the export trade is started, this country will be yellow with Maize and Corn. Why not come yourself?

There's a few nice things in Kent.

I TOOK a trip from Patrixbourne
And up to London went;
I met the man from Everywhere
Who hadn't been to Kent.

He told of sunny South Sea Isles,
With scenes magnificent—
He'd never seen the sheep and kine
In wooded parks in Kent.

He'd climbed the crests of mountain peaks
So high the clouds were rent—
But never tramped the rolling Downs
That wander over Kent.

Of floral beauty, rich and rare,
He said 'twas heaven-sent,
But—Roses, lillies, violets
Are growing down in Kent.

To birds of plumage, so he said,
Rainbows their colour lent—
He'd never heard a soaring lark
Sing glory songs to Kent.

Of rushing rivers, wide and deep,
He spoke with great intent—
Ne'er paddled he the minnow streams
Our boys love down in Kent.

Of beauteous maidens, almond-eyed,
He waxed grandiloquent—
There's maids with apple-blossom cheeks,
I've kissed them, down in Kent!

H.

Can You Write?

We are always pleased to consider articles, humorous sketches, and drawings. No article should exceed 600 words, and, if you love us dearly as we hope you do, do please write on one side of the paper only, and leave a good space between every line.

Officers.

Bt. Maj. L. B. Grant, 4th the Buffs, T.A., retains the temp. rank of Maj. whilst empld. as D.A.A.G., India, (July, 1920).

Lt. E. A. Wooldridge, resigns his commission.

The Depot.

APPOINTMENTS.

The following appointments have been made :—

6278114 Pte. Waghorn to be paid L/Corpl.

6280705 Pte. V. Worth, to be Unpaid Recruit L/Corpl.

6281446 Pte. Hunt, and 6281475 Pte. Hoskins, to be unpaid Acting Corporals.

RE-ENLISTMENTS.

Pte. J. A. Cook (late R. Sussex Regt), Pte. J. Cairney (late N'ton Rgt.), Pte. J. F. Elliott (late R. Sussex Rgt.), Pte. D. J. Hoy (late K.R.R. Corps), Pte. F. Reilly (late R.I. Fusiliers), Pte. R. J. Marks (late R.G.A.), Pte. P. F. Tucker (late R.A.M.C.), Pte. P. E. Young (late 1/Herts Regt).

RECRUITS.

Pte. T. R. Burrows, Pte. F. Barber, Pte. L. Bygrave, Pte. A. Bartlett, Pte. A. Bradley, Pte. A. Betts, Pte. G. Cresswell, Pte. J. S. Collard, Pte. H. H. Clark, Pte. W. Cox, Pte. F. Collyer, Pte. W. Chittenden, Pte. J. A. Douglas, Pte. R. Dixon, Pte. J. P. Flood, Pte. J. A. Grills, Pte. G. Hodkin, Pte. A. Hird, Pte. A. J. Howard, Pte. J. S. Hatherly, Pte. G. H. King, Pte. M. L. Marsh, Pte. G. W. Mabbitt, Pte. A. F. Miller, Boy M. F. Manning (enlisted for 2nd Battalion), Pte. F. Stedman, Pte. J. A. Suter, Pte. G. Twyman, Pte. H. V. Thompson, Pte. E. Twrell, Pte. J. A. Weedon, Pte. E. J. Wraight, Pte. J. T. Walker.

ARRIVALS.

6278114 Pte. W. Waghorn and 7807455 L/C. Kirk from 1st Battalion on posting.

COURSE OF INSTRUCTION.

6278072 Sgt. R. Loggo has obtained a Sergeant Cook's Preliminary Certificate at School of Mil. Admin., Chiseldon.

DISCHARGES.

6280582 Pte. S. Amos, 6278048 R.Q.M.S. W. Edwards, 6279733 Pte. W. Harris, 6281450 Pte. M. Harding, 6281459 Pte. T. Hall, 6281421 Pte. S. Pilcher, 6281413 Pte. G. Ward, 6281405 Pte. P. Walker, 6279907 Pte. W. White.

TRANSFER TO ARMY RESERVE.

7809810 L/C. M. Penton and 6278500 Cpl. R. Holding have been transferred to Section "B," Army Reserve.

The 2nd Battalion.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

The following have been appointed unpaid Lance-Corporals :—

6279743 Dmr. Brown, 6279332 Pte. Whickam, 732481 Pte. Tutt, 6280075 Pte. Brown, 6278339 Pte. Phelan, 6281113 Pte. Penfold, 6280879 Pte. Bassett, 6278022 Pte. White, 6280217 Pte. Wickham, 6281118 Pte. Richardson, 6281127 Pte. Dunn.

The 4th Battalion.

TRANSFERS.

6906958 Dr. O. Dorrington, from 365th Battery R.F.A.

RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

6276981 Sgt. A. Hicks has re-engaged for a further period of one year.

PROMOTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS.

6280408 Sgt. R. H. Mortimer, appointed honorary Warrant Officer Class 1 (Bandmaster).

6280806 Cpl. W. Doe, appointed A/Lance-Sgt.

APPOINTMENTS.

6280761 Sergt. P. Johnson, appointed A/C. S.M.

6280652 Pte. H. E. Lott, appointed A/Band Cpl.

6281223 L/C. J. W. Mead, appointed A/Cpl.

6280790 Pte. H. Martin. appointed Paid L/Cpl.

ENLISTMENTS.

Pte. P. Gibbons (Ramsgate), Pte. F. Meakin (Ramsgate), Pte. F. Butler (Ramsgate), Pte. G. A. Dadd (Margate), Pte. A. T. Poach (Cranbrook), Pte. A. E. Nowman (Folkestone), Pte. E. Carter (Folkestone), Pte. E. Milton (Folkestone), Pte. C. Boorman (Dover), Pte. H. J. Foad (Dover), Pte. E. Back (Sittingbourne), Pte. G. W. Costen (Sittingbourne), Pte. H. J. Carter (Dover), Pte. H. Frost (Dover), Pte. J. Lee (Dover), Pte. T. H. Cotter (Dover), Pte. R. J. Hadden (Dover). Pte. W. Groom (Ramsgate), Pte. W. F. Fuller (Ramsgate), Pte. F. W. Tupp (Canterbury), Pte. G. S. Miller (Sittingbourne).

RE-ENGAGEMENTS.

6280467 R.Q.M.S. G. Arnold, 6280512 S.M. Cook W. Miles and 6280845 Pioneer Sgt. C. Coombs, for a further period of three years.

6281101 Pte. R. Rolf, for one year.

DISCHARGES.

6280931 Pte. J. Collard, 6281105 Pte. F. Watson, 6281156 Pte. F. Potter, 6280649 Pte. H. Iverson, 6280603 C.S.M. A. Cartwright.

The Outlook.

(Being monthly notes relating to the Garrison Church, Canterbury.)

BY very kind permission of the Editor we have been allowed a small space in *The Dragon* for news connected with the Garrison Church at Canterbury. It is hardly necessary to say how greatly this act of courtesy is appreciated, especially in view of the fact that for financial reasons it had been found necessary temporarily to discontinue the issue of *The Outlook* as a separate magazine.

Our intention will be to announce each month the Standing Arrangements which exist in connection with the Church work here for general information and then proceed with short notes on current events.

STANDING ARRANGEMENTS.

Sundays. 8 a.m., Holy Communion. 10.30 a.m., Parade Service. 11.45 a.m., Girls' Bible Class (Vestry). 2.45 p.m., Sunday School in the Prince of Wales' Institute (entrance by Barracks only). 5.30 p.m., Baptism (previous notice to be given in every case to the Chaplain). 6.30, Evening Service (fully choral). All seats free. 7.30 p.m., Holy Communion on 5th Sunday in the month as announced.

Weekdays. Choir Practice for Boys in Church at 7.45 p.m. on Mondays. On Wednesdays—Sunday School Teachers' Class for Juniors, 6.30 p.m. and Seniors 7.15 p.m., in the Chaplain's Office, P.W.I. except on the Wednesday before the first Sunday in the month. Thursdays—Choir Practice for men and boys from 6–7 p.m. in Church. Garrison Men's Club 6d. dance in the Prince of Wales' Institute from 7–10 p.m. Fridays—Garrison Church Guild, 3–4.30 p.m. Infants may be brought on the last Friday in each month.

Baptisms. 5.30 p.m. on Sundays or at any other time by special arrangement with the Chaplain.

Churchings. At any time by arrangement with the Chaplain.

GENERAL GARRISON CHURCH NOTES.

Garrison Men's Club Dances.

With the advent of the summer all the winter clubs, etc., came to an end at Easter. But it has been decided to continue the Garrison Men's Club dances on Thursday evenings in the Institute. The dances will be from 7–10 p.m. and charge for admission will be 6d. Pte. Turner, Xth Royal Hussars will act as M.C. The dances are open to the whole Garrison. Civilians are admitted by Pass only.

Boys' Clubs.

A successful Boxing Tournament was held in the Gymnasium on Thursday, April 20th. Major Guy Lee, D.S.O., M.C., kindly acted as Referee. Major Littlemore and Capt. Strettell were judges. Capt. Stone was time-keeper. Sgt.-Instructor Springett was M.C. An Exhibition contest was arranged between Sn.-Sgt.-Major T. Warner, 3rd Dragoon Guards and Pte. Spence, Xth Royal Hussars. The winners in the other contests were as follows :—Special Contest—Pte. Davies, Xth Royal Hussars. Junior Boys (under 5 stone)—G. Monagan, Special 3-minute round contest—Pte. Bone, Depot The Buffs. Junior Boys (over 5 stone)—Ray Edwards. Best Loser—C. Molloy. Special Contest (3 rounds)—Sea Scout Parker. Enlisted Boys Competition—Boy Cummins, Depot The Buffs. Best Loser—Boy Frisby, Xth Royal Hussars. The Tournament realized £4 13s. 5d. which has been credited to the funds of the Boys' Clubs and will ve bery useful for purchasing cricket gear, etc., for the summer. Basket Ball has also been arranged tor the Boys and Girls during the Summer.

The Choir.

We have as Organist and Choirmaster, Mr. Chambers who is an Alto in the Cathedral Choir. An Anthem is continually in hand, but men to sing tenor and bass are badly needed. It is a good opportunity to learn part singing. Those who wish to join the Choir should come to Choir Practice in the Church on Thursday nights at 6 p.m. when they can be assigned their proper parts.

The Duplex Envelope Freewill Offering System.

This is in vogue here and badly needs support in the form of new subscribers. As the offertories are so small it is very hard to carry on the work without some source of regular income. Forms of enrolment can be obtained at the Garrison Church.

The Garrison Church Guild.

It is notified for general information that the Guild Annual Sale will take place in the Prince of Wales' Institute early in July. Further information will be given next month.

The Cassocks and Surplices Fund.

This has now nearly reached £12, this being 1/5th of the total sum required for fitting out 20 boys and 10 men. Surplices are particularly badly needed, the present ones being in a terribly dilapidated condition.

Baptisms.

866. 2.4.22. Reginald Christopher Hale, Depot The Buffs.
867. 16.4.22. Daphne Patricia Haynes, Xth Royal Hussars.
868. 23.4.22. Esme Florence Ellen, Depot The Buffs.
869. 23.4.22. Marie Violet Harvey, R.A.M.C.
870. 4. 5.22. John Henry Derek Richardson, Xth Royal Hussars.

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